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

4 FEBRUARY 14, 1970

Plea For Solid Front

The testimonial given State Senator Verda F. Welcome last week spelled out in unmistakable terms the high esteem with which the 4th District's pioneering lady politician is held, not only in the black community but on the larger Baltimore and Maryland political scene.

This display comes at the AFRO believes, at a convenient time — a time when other practitioners of the political art in the Senator's own backyard are rejecting her leadership.

We think the dissension evidenced by the splittering off of political figures such as Lloyd Randolph, Henry Parks, Clarence Mitchell III, William Adams, and others, from the 4th District Democratic Club Inc. to form the Metro Democratic Club, to say the least, is unfortunate.

To cast this maneuver in its more serious perspective, it threatens the life blood of one of the most politically alert and sophisticated black areas on the East Coast of the United States.

And the 4th District's prowess, illustrated by its city-wide influence, its job placement effectiveness and its candidate discrimination, has been developed, preserved and enlarged under the leadership of Senator Welcome.

Of course Senator Welcome has not always been right on every issue.

Of course her personality may have rubbed some associates the wrong way at some time;

Of course there were, are and will be differences with her by those who have grown to political maturity under her leadership.

But are these sufficient reasons for weakening our political strength and sacrificing the political gains made through the solid front over the years?

Are we in the 4th District not yet politically mature enough to focus our attention and strength together on things that matter, such as getting good people in office and improving the lot of black Marylanders?

As far as we can tell, the catalyst that caused the fragmented state of affairs in the 4th was Senator Welcome's opposition to the naming of Councilman Robert Marshall to fill Ex-Councilman Henry Parks' seat.

Even if the senator was wrong — and we do not think she was — her political motives, the protection of 4th District citizens from the remembered humiliation of Pollack bossism, were proper.

Now we need a catalyst to bring the factions back together, and the AFRO offers a suggestion: —

Both outgoing NAACP president, Dr. Lillie M. Jackson, and incoming president, Mrs. Enolia McMillan, praised Senator Welcome as representing everything that fine womanhood stands for. They thus put the weight of the NAACP firmly behind the senator.

Dr. Jackson has universal love and respect in this community. She has spent the greater part of her life fighting those outside the community who would impede our progress.

Now, as a fitting anti-climax to Dr. Jackson's valiant career, let her take up the task, in her active retirement, of showing us all right here in our own backyard how to reject political fratricide and how to return to the 4th's solid front.

If those who have severed will not get back together, we suspect that they will have regrets after the September primaries.

For surely, even though their strength be dissapated, the people will prefer those who have helped them most and the longest.

Why Not A Student?

It is no accident that large numbers of youth and black citizens are finding common cause in their political expressions today.

Their union is not necessarily a matter of design, but rather a reaction to a kind of mentality often exhibited by the so-called "establishment."

That mentality was on display last week in the state legislature as Dr. Wilson H. Elkins, president of the University of Maryland, testified before the State Senate's Finance Committee on the bill to increase Maryland's Board of Regents from 11 to 13 members.

Gov. Marvin Mandel has specifically recommended the change in order to accommodate the demands of black citizens and students to a voice in policy-making at the university.

He wants to put on a black member and a student member when the legislature gives the go-ahead.

Dr. Elkins is agreeable to the enlargement, but he objects to a youth member. From all he is reported to have said, he has no scientific or philosophical reason for his position. He just thinks students are not yet ready to assume such responsible positions.

This is the same kind of non-reasoning that black citizens have encountered so often in their thrust for rights.

At a time when other reputable and forward-looking institution across the country — including Princeton, Harvard, Howard — and even some local ones such as St. Agnes and the Community College of Baltimore are welcoming the student voice in making policy, Dr. Elkins and the school he heads apparently suffer from a serious generation gap.

In our view, a student likely to be in contention for appointment to the board of Regent would be about as likely to be irresponsible as an adult contending for the same job.

We are happy that the Governor not feel the same way Dr. Elkins feels about this.

Hopefully a student appointment will be made, along with a black one, and that the student will help Dr. Elkins to realize he is out of step with the times.

Dr. Furman L. Templeton,

One of the hardest jobs of leadership in our time is to remain ahead of the masses that follow.

Dr. Furman L. Templeton , who died Tuesday evening, aside from all the specific accomplishments of his life, managed to bridge the gulf which arise between leaders and followers, children and adults, employers and employees, labor and industry, militants and conservatives.

He was the ever watchful, appraising and active man who in his person embodied the concerns and aspirations of all those he encountered.

That is why he became such an accomplished social scientist; that is why he could convince persons who thought they were enemies to work together for the benefit of the entire community; that is why he could make the Baltimore Urban League an effective servant not only of the black community but of the city at large.

Dr. Templeton's broad compassion, deep sympathies and diplomatic finesse are what would have made him a first rate politician if he had chosen the way of politics to serve his fellow man.

These same qualities, together with a brave willingness to confront injustice wherever he saw it, made him an Urban League executive long to be remembered — one to whom so many nameless people owe so much.

His death leaves a vacancy in leadership ranks in Baltimore and the nation.

The AFRO, which feels pride in being counted among his friends and in counting him among ours, will miss his counsel, his good words, his thoughtful deeds, his presence in our collective lives.

We stand with his loving family in solemn memory and admiration.

The Week That Is

The week of February 8 to 14 is a momentous one in that it is the time we choose to point out the special contributions America's black color have made to our national history.

It so happens that History Week this time is also the mark of the 135th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Douglass, the great, black Maryland abolitionist, publisher, minister, and diplomat, for whom so many institutions are named, including Douglass High School and Douglass Memorial Church.

And as though to underscore the week and to place a local stamp of approval on it, the Council for Equal Business Opportunity (CEBO), Mondawmin Shopping Center and this newspaper have come together to accentuate black achievement in business and trades by presenting the third annual Trade Fair on Mondawmin Mall at which all week long the wonderful things blacks are doing are on display.

The Mondawmin Association in a unique way demonstrated its concern for the civic welfare of those who support it with their trade, when last week, it sponsored the trip of stars, Jackie Robinson and Martin Milner, to Baltimore to drum up support for funds to fight drug abuse.

It would be well if the emphases that History Week bring could be sustained the year through, but there is major value in the perennial reminder it brings — the reminder that as Americans, blacks need take back seats to no men, for the roots of our history are as deep as, if not deeper than those of any group that shares our national identity.

And to top it all off, this week ends in a day that is made for lovers of all ages, Valentine's Day.

This is indeed the week that in so many ways is the week that is.

Maybe She Can Help Them

News Item: Dr. Lillie M. Jackson honored after 34 years of helping to cure unfair practices in the State of Maryland.

Our Readers Say:

Assault On Press

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:

Federal and local governmental authorities across the nation are making dangerous assaults on the freedom of the press by seeking to commandeer large quantities of unpublished material gathered by the news media.

Sweeping demands have been made for indiscriminate information such as reporters' files and notes, unpublished TV film and photos.

To give police unrestricted access all manner of unpublished material on certain groups would destroy the ability of the news media to gather information from these groups.

The result would be to seriously interfere with the public's right to be informed, through a free press, about such groups. Such an attack on the freedom of the press should be a cause of grave concern to all who value a democracy based on a fully informed public.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland applauds the action of the Columbia Broadcasting System and of Time, Inc. in resisting sweeping demands for indiscriminate information. We agree with Mr. Frank Stanton, president of CBS, when he says: "Broad, unrestricted access of reporters' notes, notebooks and other materials not published or broadcast can have a direct and seriously adverse effect on the free flow of information, and access to news sources.

While we recognize the duty to cooperate with legitimate efforts of law enforcement agencies to gather evidence of violations of law, and therefore the duty to respond to appropriately narrowly drawn requests for specific items that are relevant to trial proceedings or criminal actions, we would urge the news media to legally resist unwarranted attempts to indiscriminately probe through unpublished material.

THOMAS R. ASHER,
President, ACLU

Welcome Aboard

Dear AFRO:

Just a brief note to tell you how delighted we are with the wonderful coverage the AFRO has given the Baltimore Welcome Aboard. Both Mr. Carter as well as Welcome Aboard's Chairman of the Board — Robert Haller — are most pleased.

EDNA C. ROSKY
Director of Publicity

Another Giveway

Dear AFRO:

Piece by piece, the D'Alesandro Administration is selling Baltimore City down the river. Not content with the Airport giveaway which proposes to give the State a free equal partnership with the City in the control of the Airport, the mayor now proposes another giveaway by offering to pay part of the New Marsh Market Authority indebtedness as a consideration for the land where the market is now situated.

This proposal ignores the fact that the land belonged to Baltimore City in the first place and existing law does not require Baltimore City to pay any part of the Authority's indebtedness in order to retain ownership of the land.

The building of a consolidated food market in Howard County is rustic enough for Baltimore City because of the harm it will do to Baltimore City merchants, employees, small business and consumers.

To pay money which we are not obligated to pay is adding insult to injury. I hope our taxpayers will let the Mayor know what they think of all this.

HYMAN AARON PRESSMAN

Another Giveaway Sports Fan

Dear AFRO:

Your paper is very good and appears to be getting better. But your sports section is disappointing.

I live on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Yours is the only black paper we get. Several of us are interested in following the athletic teams in the CIAA, but you seldom if ever mention them.

We can get no sports from predominately black schools. And you don't even publish the weekly scores or standings. If you don't keep our black sports fans informed about sports in their schools, who will?

I don't mean to criticize you unfairly. But, again, not knowing what these teams are doing is really frustrating.

Rev. RICHARD R. HICKS

Political Notebook

Demos' $$ Needs May Be Blessing

By MAX JOHNSON

The Democratic Party generally is in about as much trouble as a party can be in — on the threshold of major national Congressional and gubernatorial elections.

The party is not only broke nationally — but it's losing its key national chairman, Fred Harris.

At the moment it resembles something bursting loose at the seams— and no adequate patchwork remedies are in immediate sight.

The party faces an acute headache in terms of an $8 million debt — with nothing to hock.

Democratic top brass leaders also face the growing pains of an election this fall where they can't afford to lose vital Congressional and gubernatorial seats to Richard Milhous Nixon and his Republicans.

It must be a frightful picture for them.

They tried last Friday in Miami Beach with what has been billed as a gala fund-raising affair — and it turned out to be a miserable flop.

Democratic brass had hoped to net $5 million toward its $8 million debt — and a like amount for state party organization around the country.

They came up, reportedly, with something in the neighborhood of $3 million instead.

This, of course, leaves nothing of note for the party's state organizations, including the Democrats' Gov. Marvin Mandel's Maryland where he faces election this fall.

* * *

On top of this gloomy situation — Fred Harris has announced he is bowing out as national party chairman — and nobody at the moment has a successor.

There have been rumors out of Washington that they are trying to entice Lawrence O'Brien, former chairman, to assume his old job — they have remained to date just rumors.

So — the Democrats are really abuzz at this point.

They have 25 U.S. senators around the country who must win to hold their seats — as against just 10 Republicans.

The Democrats have held an unshaken majority in the Senate for the past 15 years.

It's no secret that President Nixon is directing GOP brass to pull out all stops to change this picture.

Black America's top man, Massachusetts' Sen. Edward W. Brooke is not one of these 10 GOP senators up for re-election this year. His term expires in 1973.

Maryland's Sen. Charles C. Mc. Mathias Jr. is another Republican who won't have to run this year.

But — this state's Democratic Sen. Joseph D. Tydings must bid to hold his seat.

However, here in Maryland the GOP has yet to come up with a formidable foe against Sen. Tydings.

Then again there are the Congressional seats up for grabs in this state and elsewhere throughout the nation.

While the Democrats are broke— the Republicans are flush with the green stuff.

Any hard-bitten politician worthy of the name will tell you it takes money, rather than sentiment, to win elections these days.

While the pending elections pose a gloomy picture for top Democratic brass nationally — it presents a bright outlook for black candidates at the state level.

* * *

Democartic leadership, particularly in Maryland, has all but ignored the black candidate.

This has been true in other areas where the Democratic leadership has enjoyed somewhat of a stranglehold over the public — by way of voter registration vastly in the majority.

Now that the Democrates are broke, however, with no campaign funds in sight out of Washington — somebody is going to have to sit up and take notice of the party's black candidates.

Party brass will have to do this in order to survive the fast-building Republican onslaught.

This means building and boosting the Democratic Party campaign at the state level with black candidates on key party tickets.

It means building campaign funds for both black and white candidates on such tickets alike from both black and white communities.

In short — it means total involvement.

Should this come to pass — the financial ills of the Democratic Party will be something of a blessing.

Perspective

Of Wigs And Newspapers

By DAVID E. SLOAN

Here are two true, short stories which in their separate ways say something intensely interesting and yet shatteringly unimportant about the things that concern us in our time.

Ever since the daily and Sunday newspapers have been on strike in Baltimore people have been doing all sorts of things to get hold of a paper.

They not only drive to Washington or Wilmington, or Philadelphia, exhaustant prices to scalpers when they can find one with a current news sheet.

And of course the AFRO, being the only bona fide newspaper published in the city, is having its entire output garbled up as fast as it can come off the press.

But last Sunday a thing happened which indicates how sophisticated various establishments are in trying to take care of themselves even in the face of something as all-pervasive and undeadly as a newspaper strike.

And also, how ingenious non-members of an establishment can be in frustrating its will when they set their minds to it.

A certain lady went shopping for the Sunday New York Times, one things considered a pretty good substitute for a Sunday Sun.

She could not find a paper anywhere in the ghetto and so she ventured to an outlying suburb where only wealthy professionals and business people live.

She went into several stores, asked for the paper and was told by the clerks that they had none. Yet, when she exited from the stores she saw others coming out with papers.

She got the bright idea of posing as a servant for a localite in the next store, where the conversation went something like this:

Clerk: "May I help you?"

Woman: "Yes, I came for Dr. Wolfinroot's paper.

Clerk: "Whose?"

Woman: "Dr. Wolfinroot's, over on the Charlesway."

Clerk: "Oh! Dr. Wolfinroot! Indeed! Here you are miss." And with this remark the clerk reached behind the counter and delivered a current edition of the Sunday paper.

Woman: "How much?"

Clerk: "The usual price to Dr. Wolfinroot. Just 50 cents."

The lady was so surprised and pleased with her successful outmanuvering of the establishment, that she continued her little gambit in several other stores until she not only had her own Sunday paper, but also papers for about a half dozen friends.

* * *

The other story is about a wig, a woman, and a windy day.

We had just stopped to wait for a stop light to change

Suddenly, on one of the wind-swept corners, a live-looking, hairy object flew upwards from a woman's head and landed on the sidewalk not far away.

She turned frantically to pursue it, but just at that moment a man, seeing her dilemma, began to chase the object as well.

When he came upon it, he acted as though he thought it was alive — stomping and kicking and holding it with his feet for dear life.

It was only after a second, careful examination that we discovered that the lady had not lost her hat, but that a far more unique thing had happened: her wig had blown off.

The embarrassed lady took the wayward wig from the man, neatly pulled it back into place on her head and walked coolly onward as before.

The man stood fascinated by what had happened, and we watched the lady for as long as we stood at the stoplight.

Wigs and newspapers... some of the urgent concerns of the mundane condition in the 20th century.

History Week

This week marks the annual observance of Negro History Week by thousands of Baltimoreans and millions of Americans. Happily not all of them are celebrating it, or helping with celebration of History Week are Black, since white, as well as black people, need to know more about black people and their achievements.

Because of the impact of the "Black Revolution" in the past decade, more research has been undertaken and more stories of new and old published works about black people have been made available to Americans than at any period in the past. Previously it was a tremendous task to find some historical data on black people; now it is here, there and everywhere.

The majority of these tomes are about the continent of Africa, where the centuries of cloudiness, the veil obscuring the past greatness is slowly being lifted and the accumulated myths about the inferiority of black men is being exploded.

Yet no story can be more eloquent of the ability of a people to survive and progress, than the vast, half told story of the Black American, and of his rising triumph over the most abominable incidence of mental physical bondage in the history of mankind.

The great nation we know as the United States of America would hardly be great, and yet it would have survived, without the untold contributions of the decendants of those Africans who withstood the "middle passage" from Africa to the New World. Honest historians agree on this point.

For those who feel the need for further foundation upon which to build the essentials of pride and dignity requisites for a free people, we suggest the study of the black man's experience in the New World—beginning with this decade—as a most rewarding source.

Negro History Week should be fully utilized to explore the hidden achievements of black men around the globe, who, having broken the fetters that bound them physically, now fight to free themselves from the fetters of inferiority. This is an inferiority which they have been subjected to through the devilish designed Christian "morality" that condoned forced labor and human degradation on one hand while insisting on the institutionalized framework of participatory government on the other.

In many circles, the black man is still stifled by this kind of "morality," and History Week is a good time to examine it for its worthiness as an American institution. We need participatory government, yes, but human degradation, no!

POET'S NOOK

Upon Going To Vietnam

My time will come when I'll be leaving here
To the republic of Vietnam for about
one year.
Upon my return I'll have this to say,
Treat me as if I have never been
away.
Believe me I have thought of nothing
since,
Hearing from personnel and knowing
what it means.
Going to a place where they will try
for my life
But I will make it by thinking of my
kids and wife.
My first stop upon departure will be
home
And about thirty days later I will be
gone.
Then before you know it I will be
back
Picking up the piece and taking up
the slack.
They may say they were not afraid
nor showed
No fear, until the time it was my
voice they could hear.
Oh I may get drunk and I may cry,
because there
Will be more telling my loved ones
goodby.

SP 4 WM. R. PATRICK Jr.
Ft. Meade Md.

AFRO 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 secured;

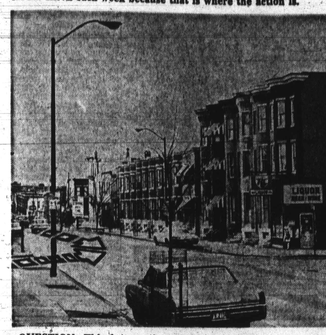
Whether it is fighting to get rid of slums to provide jobs for everybody;

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

JOHN H. MURPHY SR. — 1920

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, AFRO, 628 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.



QUESTION: This intersection at Riggs and Monroe is extremely dangerous, especially about 3 p.m. when school children are returning home. We have had several accidents in the area. Is there anything we can do about it. Can the AFRO help? —E.M.

ANSWER: The first step is to write a letter to the Department of Transit and Traffic, Pier No. 2, 401 E. Pratt St. to the attention of Mr. Hugo Liem. Make some specific suggestion as to how the situation can be changed, such as the erection of another stop sign or a traffic light. They have been informed about the problem by the AFRO and are expecting your letter.

QUESTION: I have a daughter who would like to work with children during the summer, but she is not here to apply. She is away at college. I would pick up some applications for her and send them. Could you tell me where to go please?

Mrs. A.B.

ANSWER: The Bureau of Recreation is interviewing young people for summer jobs right now on Wednesdays from 3 to 5 p.m. For those away in school, there will be interviews during spring vacation. The personnel director, however, has mailed an application to you for your daughter. When your daughter comes home from for vacation, she should bring the application with her for an interview at 1129 N. Calvert St.

QUESTION: Please tell me why it takes four to five weeks to have a change of address on your voters card?

I was told to leave the card and that it would be mailed to me. That was Jan. 13 and it is now February.

I went back to the Board of Elections to ask why I had not received it and was told it would be from four to eight weeks. Please find out why?

Mrs. I. B.

ANSWER: It takes from four to eight weeks because the board waits until a sufficient number of address changes come in before they send them to City Hall to be processed. This is the word from the board itself.

QUESTION: I was born July 17, 1908 in Wilmington, N.C. Where shall I write to get my birth certificate? What is the cost to have it sent me in Baltimore?

Mrs. E.M.C.

ANSWER: To get a copy of your birth certificate, write the State Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Records, Raleigh, N.C. The cost has been just $1, however it may have gone up to $2. It is suggested that you send $2 to be sure.

BOOK REVIEW

Because of the intentional suppression of African and Afro-American history, C. L. R. James' "A History of Pan-African Revolt" is most absorbing. It includes stories seldom told and considerations seldom discussed, based on fact.

Although most of the essays that comprise the book were completed by 1939, the newly published edition is still timely because the basic situation of African oppression still exists.

The book is especially important because increased knowledge and understanding has broadened Afro-American perspective.

The interest in African affairs on the continent and in the West Indies should make James' book quite popular.

* * *

The language is simple and the reading uncomplicated—James obviously possesses the quality of a good historian — to present complex situations in an orderly, easily understandable manner.

Among the revolts he describes is the Haitian Revolution. One of James' themes is that revolution succeeds primarily because of optimal conditions i.e., the time is right and people are aware enough to realize their opportunity, and capable enough to take advantage of the situation.

* * *

The Haitian revolt occurred during time of conflict among the European colonists in the Caribbean. Toussiant L'Overture played the European powers against each other to the advantage of the African.

Another important factor was the French Revolution. The struggle in France resulted in political chaos all over Europe and the Haitian slaves and subjected people took advantage of the situation.

James tells more about this story in his famed book "Black Jacobins."

Possibly the most important contribution made by the History Pan-African Revolt is the information about the revolts that have occurred for hundreds of years on the African continent.

One statement made in a chapter on Africa tells why there is still conflict on the continent among nations that have been granted political independence.

* * *

"What are the reasons for this rapid decay and decline in African nationalism? The best known and the reason most often advanced by Africans and advocates of African independence is the continued exploitation by the industrial and finance-capital of Europe and the United States."

Sen. Welcome, real inspiration - Julian

(Baltimore City's 4th District City Councilman, Dr. Emerson R. Julian, was among speakers at the recent testimonial banquet honoring State Senator Verda F. Welcome. The text of his speech is reprinted here.)

In the present maze of social happenings one of the greatest difficulties, or, if I may be permitted to resort to cliche, hangups people are encountering is in the making of a true assessment of achievement.

Never before have we witnessed so widespread expressions of desire on the part of so many people to change our society.

Unfortunately, too often too many of these people have little or no true understanding of the very intricate structure and organization involved.

Yet, from every corner of our community self-designated leaders are springing forth with their plans.

There is a tendency too quickly to grant the mantle of leadership. False standards for those to be honored as leaders have too often, I believe, been utilized.

Honor, I have always believed, should be a reward for merit. Be it for deeds in any arena of life, the bestowing of honor should be jealously done.

When honor is otherwise tendered, then all of the glister of honor dims, the real meaning of honor becomes lost, the precious nature of honor is destroyed, and honor becomes commonplace.

Honor then becomes cheap, honor then becomes tawdry.

It is therefore such a pleasure to participate in this evening's activities, for I am so proud that the person whom we are honoring this evening has all of the prerequisites for being honored. She has merited it!

Verda Welcome has been a giant in this community, a tower of strength, a symbol of decency, and an inspiration to all of the people.

She has served gallantly and unselfishly without even the slightest thought of personal glorification or aggrandizement.

She has represented not just a select few. She has represented you.

* * *

With all candor, I must state, for I enjoy telling it just like it is, that I cannot say this of some others, that rather puzzling alliance of personalities, who are now newly organizing on a massive basis ostensibly to represent the people — what people, I just wonder.

For, although they promise everything, I would recall the old adage the wisdom of which I believe to be very sound: an acre of performance is worth the whole world of promise.

Senator Welcome has performed. And even the Bible tells us: beware of false prophets, Ye shall know them by their fruits.

* * *

So, Senator Welcome, I say to you be not disturbed by winds which blow loudly and hard from other directions but rather just follow this little bit of advice:—

If you strike a thorn or a rose, keep GOING
And if it hails or snows keep a going
Tain't no use to sit and wine
'Cause the fish ain't on your line;
Bait your hook and keep on a trying
Keep a going.

Keep a going, Senator, keep a going just like you have been for the past twelve years and I am certain that the good people whom you have so faithfully served will keep a going right along with you!

It's NOT A Man's World

By BERNICE S. WHITE

MRS. WHITE

We can get some glimpse of the dimensions of the need for day care by considering the sheer growth in the number of working mothers. They increased by 73 percent in the decade of the 50's, and it is estimated that during the 1960-1970 decade there was another 25 percent increase.

The number of working mothers is fast approaching 9 million. Of these mothers, over 3 million have children under six years of age. The number of licensed day care facilities cannot accommodate these children.

In the whole country there are day care center facilities for only 475,000 children. Undoubtedly, of course, some children of working mothers are receiving adequate care outside of licensed facilities.

But many are suffering from neglect, emotional and physical. We will be seeing more and more of the intangible results of the damage they suffer during their formative years.

A well-known newspaper correspondent recently reported that "to help fill the gap, countless neighborhoods and groups of families are starting their own day care centers.

But most are substandard educationally; they are not staffed by trained personnel; and many are nothing more than paid baby-sitting agencies which stick children in front of a TV set and — if the parents are lucky — make sure they don't hurt themselves.

It is shocking that in this highly civilized and affluent 20th century America, little children are undergoing hardships that compare with the most 'melodramatic of Dickens' tales."

There are presently thousands of men and women in communities all over the country who recognize the dire need for day care programs and who are working hard to develop and expand them. While legislation and funds are essential, they mean nothing unless there are willing minds, and hands and hearts to see that they are used — and used effectively.

One of the immediate ways to help accomplish this is through opening the eyes of the public to what day care is and what it accomplishes. Community leaders must visit the centers and see for themselves.

The newspapers, and radio and TV stations can help tell the story. Not only must we promote more and better day care, we must also be sure that the services itself and its objectives are clearly understood.

The United States Government will now be entering the area of childhood education on a National Movement basis. Only 60-70 percent of our children have been able to attend public Kindergarten in the last five years.

Programs for 3 and 4 year olds have been limited and efforts have been focused on disadvantaged children. The new programs of early childhood development will be concerned with all children of all economic levels.

To secure the financing, the legislation, and the support we need to provide adequate day care services, we must cope with many of the old myths attached to the whole concept of women's role in society.

You know them as well as I — "Woman's place is in the home", "Day care centers tend to institutionalize children"; "If we provide women with a place to 'park' their children, they'll all leave home"; "Working mothers cause juvenile delinquency"; and a dozen others.

* * *

These attitudes are symptoms of a social lag which we can ill afford.

They do not take into account the changes that have taken place in the life patterns of American women. Once upon a time the home was the center of a great deal of activity and it was accepted that mother would stay in the home.

Now these once home centered activities are community centered, and women must go out of the home to followed them out of the home. For many mothers, day care facilities in their communities mean the difference between economic independence and the welfare rolls.

These facilities should be the best that a community can offer for its children. Parents, citizens, local, State and Federal agencies cooperate, they can develop better programs for children, our greatest resource.

Let us consider bending ourselves into new shapes instead of bending children out of shape.

Next Week: The Dollars and Sense of Day Care

Press, Too, Is History

Speaking of History Week, this is a brief period when all citizens, black and white, usually get a broad and concentrated exposure of black life and history through the various communication media—newspapers, television, radio, etc.

This is wonderful. But the trouble is that when the 7-day History Week celebration ends, few, the professional historians excepted, give a look at what significant material has been compiled and available at countless libraries generally, and at the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History particularly. Incidentally, the ASNLH headquarters is right in Washington at 1538 Ninth St., NW, NW.

Another facet of history most of us overlook is the established black newspapers, and in this instance we, naturally, think of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, including the Washington AFRO.

As papers of record, these newspapers are instruments of contemporary history. They mirror the doings, good and bad, of the black man's activities in every field of endeavor. Down through the years they have been valuable resource material for ambitious historians, yet many publishers are forced to wonder what black readers think about their products when they survey the overall circulation of the black press around the country.

If the black man sincerely hopes to free himself from the inferiority mentioned in an earlier editorial, the wise thing to do would be to give greater support to the black press.

They can do this by supporting the advertisers who support the black press, and letting those who do not support the black press know that they should, in addition to buying and reading the newspapers.

Too, those prideful black readers might be thoughtful enough to use some of the stories, articles and pictures from the black press in the numerous displays they maintain to project the image of their individual and institutional productions. This, too, would be an expression of real pride and dignity.

If YOU Ask ME

BY BETTYE M. MOSS

MRS. MOSS

School 103-down memory lane

Our favorite correspondent, Mrs. Louise Kerr Hines, has a remarkable memory. Herewith we share with you her reminiscences about our favorite teacher, Miss Lillian H. Trusty, who died last month.

Miss Trusty was in charge of the third grade practice center on the second floor of the 92-year-old structure known as Henry Garnett School No. 103, still in use in the 1300 block of Division Street and popularly known as "The Division Street School."

To Miss Trusty, teaching was not only a profession, but a dedication. We looked up to her with love and affection, and away from the classroom imitated her speech, walk and mannerisms.

* * *

How attractive and distinctive she was, a real personality! Her dresses, severely tailored, ankle length with long sleeves, were in muted colors, relieved with a touch of white at the throat and always, a crisp white apron! In winter months she wore well-polished high brown leather shoes.

Sweet-faced Miss Trusty had smooth golden skin and beautifully chiseled features.

Her beautiful mixed gray hair was piled high in an era when school ma'arms were easily distinguished by the plainest of coiffeurs; straight bobs for the younger set, and psyche knots for the more mature.

She wore long golden earrings and nose glasses. A gold eversharp pencil was suspended from a chain around her neck and was ever ready to make neat and precise corrections in our "copy-books" which were inspected daily.

* * *

The practice center then, as today, was the laboratory for the Normal School students who observed Miss Trusty's lessons before beginning their turns at practice teaching.

Disciplinary problems were unheard of.

Fleet of foot, Miss Trusty was up and down the aisles alert to all that was going on with an uncanny knack of anticipating mischief and averting it with a look, a gesture or an inflection of her voice.

Much teaching was done of note. Remember our reciting our multiplication tables, and spelling aloud, and the phonics lessons?

"Tip, low" and "high" third classes were in adjoining rooms, separated by partitions topped by blackboards. When the partitions were raised we had joint assemblies, music lessons and special holiday programs.

Every night we carried home our brown-backed Elson readers.

Homework always included oral reading of the story assigned for the next day, and being quizzed on your spelling and arithmetic problems.

There was no duplicated "seat work" assignments. We either copied our lessons from the blackboard or took or wrote from dictation.

We learned songs from the Hollis Dann music books. Special lessons were given by Miss Trusty's niece, the charming, attractive Miss Adah Killion (now the AFRO music critic, Mrs. Adah K. Jenkins). She was a favorite of all the pupils as was the supervisor, the late Miss Florence Purviance.

The boys favored the physical education sessions with Mr. Elmer Burgess who always managed to get us outdoors on the coldest days.

* * *

We girls were bundled up in "chinchilla" coats, knitted tams and gloves, long stockings and high-top shoes.

The boys had a look-alike appearance with their knitted "Tim" caps buttoned below the chin, plaid mackinaw coats and knee-length knickers.

* * *

The most unique sound in the Division Street school, was the wail of the reed organ down the hall in the classroom of Mr. "Jake" Holland as his fifth graders sang during morning assemblies.

When Mr. Harry T. Pratt was principal, he wheeled the Victrola in the first floor corridor and at dismissal time we marched out of the building with pseudo military precision to the strains of "Stars and Stripes Forever."

On cloudy days I can recall Miss Trusty standing on a chair to light the gas jets. (Only the first floor rooms had electric lights.)

* * *

Parents meetings were just that, with the teachers giving a subject by subject appraisal of your strengths and weaknesses to visiting mothers and fathers, for remedial assistance at home.

"Division Street School" was a "family" school. The brother or sister who preceded you, set the standards for your achievement (and Miss Trusty was one of the teachers who constantly reminded you of that fact.)

The most distinguished alumnus of School 103 is Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, but scores of others have gone on to make their respective marks in the world.

* * *

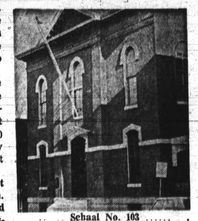
It is interesting to note what the 1930 Survey of Public School System Survey of Baltimore had to say about School No. 103:

"The site of this school building is very inadequate, only 120 per square feet per pupil, and has little to commend it. The classrooms have less than 15 percent of window area to floor area. It has only 16 classrooms.

"The children who attend this building (built in 1877) should ultimately be housed in a new building together with the children attending schools in this locality."

Teachers like Miss Lillian H. Trusty and many other dedicated instructors enriched the lives, molded the characters as well as helped to develop the minds of hundreds of children in good old Division Street School.

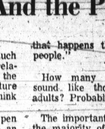
Blessings on them all.



School No. 103 ... 1300 block of Division St known as "Division St. School

TOGETHER

Black Children And the Police



By RONALD J. DOSWELL

In this day and time when so much discussion centers around the relationship between black people and the police, one wonders what the future generation of black people think about these men in blue.

So, again, I gathered up my pen and and pencil and journeyed to an inner city school to ask some black 5th grade students there, what they thought about the police.

Herewith are some of their comments:

* * *

Robert M., age 13 — "They are nice sometimes but not always."

Willie S., age 9 — "I really don't like them."

Vanlear T., age 11 — "I like them if they don't mess with me."

Morris R., age 10 — "They're O.K."

Warren W., age 12 — "I hate them, they get into your business too much."

Anthony C., age 11 "They're alright . . . I guess."

Delroy T., age 11 — "They make trouble. I don't like them."

Vernon H., age 11 — "They help sometimes and sometimes they don't."

Michael B., age 12 — "Alright . . . but usually trouble makers."

Ben T., age 11 — "I just don't like them."

Carl L., age 12 — "They're a drag. I don't like them, they boss colored people around."

Shelton H., age 12 — "They ain't no good. They arrest some people for nothing."

Alvin W., age 11 — "Everything that happens they blame on black people."

* * *

How many of these comments sound like those made by black adults? Probably many.

* * *

The important thing though is that the majority of these children have no great love for the police. What will these black children think about these civil servants five, ten, or fifteen years from now? Will they grow to hate policemen more, and will they develop ways to vent this hatred towards these men? I wonder!

Can the Baltimore City Police Department learn a lesson from the comments of these children? I for one think they can. To eliminate this hatred that these children have for the police, the police should begin sincere efforts to improve their relationship with the black community.

* * *

In improving this relationship, the police must stop being so eager to pick their "killer dogs" on black people.

The police must stop being so eager to "beat heads" when arresting black people. In addition, the police, both black and white, must stop being so discourteous when dealing with our people.

Maybe if these things ceased then our children will begin to view these men in a different light.

And if these things were not done, then these black, beautiful children might grow up and show these policemen exactly how much they hate them.