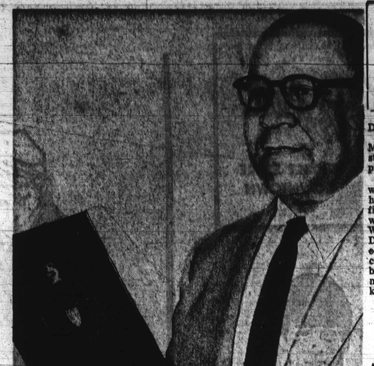
John C. Catlin



JOHN C. CATLIN, master plumber and pioneer civil rights fighter, buried this week, shown with his 1956 AFRO Honor Roll Plaque.

John C. Catlin, Baltimore's first black master plumber, was a tall man in more than one way during his life. Standing 6 feet one and a half inches, he spoke to the AFRO in 1957 as follows concerning his rugged, 15-year-long fight to become a black master plumber in this city:

"When they (the plumbing board) told me I had to get three letters of recommendations from registered master plumbers, I thought it would be easy.

"But it was not easy; they kept pushing me around and I couldn't get the letters. I went to see a plumber who was a friend and on this particular day he was drinking just enough to tell me the truth.

"He told me that the plumbers had decided that if anyone gave me a letter he would be blackballed in the trade."

Some lesser men would have given up under this sort of covert opposition, but not Mr. Catlin.

He persevered until he not only had his own license, but organized an association so that others following could have a less difficult time being certified master plumbers.

Baltimore lost by death one of those others who came along with Mr. Catlin, Earl Parker, not long ago.

Happily Mr. Catlin was able to hear and see some of his praises before his death. In 1953 he received a special award from the Sidney Wilson Lodge of Elks in Washington, and later was cited by the Baltimore Urban League.

In 1957 he was named Citizen of the Year by Beta Sigma Tau Fraternity, and in the year preceding, he was named to this newspaper's Honor Roll.

At that time, our citation to him read: "For your courage and your persistence and for your long fight of 15 years, for the simple right to take a State examination as a master plumber and secure a license, the AFRO has placed you on its roll of honor and awards you this plaque."

The Baltimore community will miss the pioneering and achieving spirit of John C. Catlin.

The Murnaghan Era

In this age of rebellion and change, large cities face complex problems, not the least of which is the administration of public schools.

Baltimore's growing school population of 193,000 and staff of 13,000 are the prime responsibility of the Board of School Commissioners. Traditionally, the president of the board has been the liaison person.

For the past two years, Baltimore's School Board president has been Francis D. Murnaghan Jr.

He has served with distinction.

For the entire two-year period, save for brief vacations, Mr. Murnaghan, a busy lawyer and civic leader, has devoted most of his time and energies to school matters.

His efforts have been fruitful.

Under his leadership, Baltimore hired a first-class superintendent, Dr. Thomas D. Sheldon.

The school administration undertook its first major administration reorganization in 67 years.

The board of superintendents which had veto powers over the superintendent, was abolished.

The curriculum was revamped to make it more relevant to the total community.

Half of the top 14 administration are black.

There is quite a prime possibility that Maryland admirers of R. Sargent Shriver may be doing him and themselves a grave injustice by continually encouraging him to enter the state's Democratic race for governor.

If he accepts — it could be a painful experience both might well long remember.

For at this point — the only thing Mr. Shriver has going for him is a relatively few prayers.

But — more about this in a moment.

One amazing thing jumps forceably to the forefront in looking in the direction of some Shriver hopefuls, especially in the black community.

Some of them are not registered Democrats — but either independents or wishy-washy Republicans.

It should be quite academic to even the more politically naive that Mr. Shriver, should he run, will face a formidable fight indeed in the Democratic primary.

His major opponent to try to unseat in that primary would undoubtedly be the Democrats' pipe-smoking, Gov. Marvin Mandel.

* * *

Everybody ought to know first off that only registered Democratic voters can cast ballots in that coming Democratic primary for Democratic candidates.

Thus, independents and wishy-washy Republicans can't help Mr. Shriver where he needs help most.

As to the argument that there are flocks of dissident Democrats ready to hop to the Shriver bandwagon — close observation fails to substantiate this.

Word out of Washington Wednesday that the Shriver resignation as U.S. Ambassador to France has long been on the Republican, Richard Milhous Nixon's desk.

A Shriver for governor headquarters has been opened in the Bethesda area near Washington.

Further reports are that he is not certain when he will be leaving his foreign post — and when he does is toying with the idea of senatorial races in either New York or Illinois along with a possible Maryland bid.

I have commented here previously that if the Democratic primary were to be held next week with Mr. Shriver as an entry — he would lose handily.

Nothing has developed to change that conclusion.

I have said here repeatedly that should he enter the race, he would undoubtedly bring in some of the nation's top black political campaigners — including Earl Graves and Mississippi's Charlie Evers, architects of the late Sen. Robert Kennedy's presidential campaign.

That view hasn't changed.

I have said here on any number of occasions that a Shriver-Mandel race would be an interesting innovation to what appears to be shaping into a homeless conscience.

I still stick to that allegation.

But — for political reasons, I state in regard to Mr. Shriver hasn't changed to any appreciable degree either.

This is not to be construed as a personal pro-Mandel pitch — nor an anti-Shriver blast.

It's a statement of political fact as matters now stand — and Shriver hopefuls can be expected to disagree strongly. Otherwise, they wouldn't be Shriver hopefuls.

Nonetheless, it is a healthy sign when dissident members of any party have the fortitude to break with the establishment—if for no more meaningful reason than to keep the establishment somewhat attune to public demands.

There is a vast degree of difference, however, between political emotions and hard political facts.

Maybe a Shriver-Mandel campaign might serve to wake up a lot of people about the necessity of voting in a primary — rather than sitting back and waiting for the general election.

If it would do this — then it would serve a welcome purpose.

As matters now stand though, I am reminded of that old saying—"Everybody wants to go to Heaven but nobody wants to die."

The apparent doggedly persistence of some Shriver hopefuls gives indication they are ready to die—politically for awhile — for the Shriver utopia they envision.

I said die politically for in politics you either win with your man or you lose with your man — and suffer the rejection consequences when you lose.

But on the other hand — maybe Mr. Shriver does know more about Maryland government and Maryland needs than any other likely gubernatorial candidate.

Even so — he's going to need far more than some people's prayers and emotionalism to run a close second.

Winning is out of the question unless Shriver hopefuls band together and do some hard and tedious politicking on his behalf at the precinct level throughout Baltimore and the counties.

This means a lot of hard work — — not emotionalism but extremely hard work.

Shula? C'est la Vie

When Don Shula notified the Colts that he was leaving his job here to accept a position with the Miami Dolphins, he touched off a controversy among Baltimore fans that still refuses to wane.

As is the case everywhere when people pay money to support athletics, Baltimore fans had split into two factions on the subject of Shula. One was composed of those who backed his moves; the other was made up of his critics.

In the last two years, the latter-force appeared to have picked up new strength and a louder voice in the stands and in the street.

It is not difficult for any football coach, particularly in the hardnosed [illegible] era, to recognize the danger fan disapproval. He realizes too, that most clubowners are quick to acknowledge records of the past, but quicker to chalk over failures of the present.

In the eyes of the Colt front office, last year was object failure.

In such a circumstance, it is understandable that Don Shula would jump at the chance to move on, to sell to Miami while his stock was high.

Seven years earlier, a disenchanted Baltimore had gotten rid of Weeb Ewbank; a man who now stands as the only coach in football history to win world championships in both major leagues — the second at the expense of the team which fired him.

Baltimore football lived through the humiliation of being beaten by the man it didn't want. It now will survive the goodbye of the man it didn't want to depart.

C'est la vie.

Racism in the Congress

The insulting remarks, name calling and subsequent attitude of some members of the United States Congress about the House restaurant incident between Governor Lester Maddox of Georgia and Congressman Charles C. Diggs, Jr. points up painfully than anything possibly could the trend of racism in America.

From Maddox, whose whole career, political and otherwise, has been steeped with racism of the rankest sort, little more than this could be expected, but to have congressmen, who are supposed to be the legislative leaders of the country, snicker and laugh at a report of the incident from a colleague is illustrative of the sorry state of our Congress. It is little wonder that any enlightening legislation comes from this branch of the government.

Behind a cloak of congressional position, obviously means nothing to such men as Maddox, whose racism blinds all reason when he sees an intelligent person whose skin happens to be black. He immediately reverts to type, and in his case the lowest on the political totem pole.

There is little hope for men of Maddox's kind. They just don't change, no matter what position thinking populace may put them in, but it is strange that responsible and statesmanlike members of Congress allow such behavior in their chamber.

Many of them no doubt think like the Georgia governor and don't see anything wrong in what took place, but we wonder if the silent colleagues of Congressman Diggs and John C. Conyers, who protested it on the house floor, or those who saw it as funny, would do and say it the situation had been the other way.

For instance, would they have felt the same way had a leader of the Black Panther Party, been passing out mini-guns in the House restaurant and ended up by calling objectors "pigs" and "crackers"?

Of course, we know the howls of horror, demands for arrest and resolutions to bar them forever would have been continuous. We say the situation is similar and we are anxiously awaiting what those silent sinners will do.

Also the reports state that Capitol policemen were aiding and assisting Gov. Maddox in passing out the racism materials. This is disgraceful and some action should be taken against these leaders at the public trough who persist in perpetuating their prejudices.

Another phase of this unfortunate incident brings out the profound reality of being black in America. All the burning, looting, shooting and shaking this country has undergone in the years in spite just a little respect and dignity for black people as human beings, is tossed out of the window of hope with one seasless, [illegible] or not by an avowed segregationist like the Georgia governor and his like.

This kind of behavior by a governor of a state is unbelievable and inexcusable. It won't be understood by our friends in foreign lands, and will be remembered a long time by the voters in America, particularly those who vote for the Congressional members who failed to denounce this ugly and unguberniatorial action.

The hope that racism, with its hateful, destructive sentiment, untouched by the grace of reason, would some day diminish as a dominating force in American and American politics, is lost as long as the Maddoxes and his kind are alive and living in America.

For the Black Congressmen sitting in the halls of Congress, it must have been a new revelation of what it means to be black in America. All the pride and joy, dignity and respect that their position carries with it, now must be shunned into the background by the anger, grief and fear over which way America is headed in the fight to end racism.

Maddox and those who back him see it appear we are going backwards.

There are times, I think, when every black citizen of the United States is tempted to do just that.

There are those times, I think, when because of some racially oriented frustration, a black man or woman feels life be doesn't want to talk to anyone doesn't want to negotiate over any problem; just wants to go out and belabor some white person or to deliver some structural monument to white chauvinism.

Time was that when these moments occurred, the frustrated black citizen would resort to his deeply religious culture and "take it to the Lord in prayer."

Today, instead of praying away the problem, most of us — like intelligent and sophisticated people everywhere — resort to our powers of common sense and reason, finally resolving not to go out and willfully destroy something, but to seek removal of frustrations through different means.

The true militant is always able to push aside these second thoughts and to engage in one or another form of destruction to the end of replacing what is with what may be.

Under ordinary circumstances those in which revolts are for control of a country rather than a community within a country, such as the black community is within the U.S. — the militant can afford to be committed to total destruction.

But here is a different position. The most he can do, if indeed he ever achieved an overthrow of the general government, is a tenth portion of the country—those semi-powerless enclaves of black citizens called the black community.

The thing the American militant does not seem to understand is that he can achieve power in the black community without unseating the black middle class.

In fact, the black middle class — and the American democracy, regardless of its faults, has created an authentic black one—would be willing to grant the militant power roles in exchange for his razor sharp confrontation with the white structure, a confrontation which is most beneficial to the middle class, non-violent citizen.

But militants somehow see everyone except other militants as enemies.

Therefore, they spend as much time attacking members of the structure in the black community as the common white enemy.

Black politicians who have struggled to get elected and continue to struggle for affluence so that they can help constituents and get reelected, are favorite targets of the died-in-the-wool black militant.

If I were a black, American militant — and I wish my common sense and book learning would allow me to be — I would preserve the militant energies to undo the conservative, white structure.

My middle-class, black brothers I would treat with the utmost courtesy in the knowledge that I could achieve nothing without them and that their interests were essentially my own.

But perhaps my cause as a militant without being a general one, in revolt against everything and everybody.

Political Notebook

Shriver Hopefuls Need More Than Emotionalism

By MAX JOHNSON

Perspective

If I Were A Militant

By DAVID E. SLOAN

Our Readers Say:

Saluting Dr. Jenkins

Readers are invited to submit letters for publication. All letters must be signed, but signatures will be withheld if requested. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length. Address them to "Our Readers Say," Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1557, Baltimore, Md. 21203.

Dear AFRO:

The recent announcement from Dr. Martin D. Jenkins has prompted this statement from the local Chapter of a predominantly black sorority.

It is part of a group of 65,000 women in the United States who have had a history of actively fighting fifty-seven years for justice beginning with their Founders who marched for Women's Suffrage in Washington, D.C., in 1913. The public support of education is their real and constant concern, for without it the vast numbers of youth will not be enabled to mature nor to adequately serve mankind.

MRS. MABELINE C. JULIEN
Chairman, Recommendations

Open Letter

To Dr. Martin Jenkins:

We, the sorors of the Baltimore Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Incorporated—A Public Service Sorority, salute your life of service to Morgan State College, to the Baltimore community, and to the academic world.

Fully three-fourths of our current local roll of approximately 35 members have been affiliated with Morgan State College as regular students, summer or evening students, graduate students, faculty members, administrators, or alumnae for the past 30 or more years.

We are therefore well aware of the tremendous maturation of Morgan State College which has been molded by your efforts, during the past 22 years in a manner, which we feel, is unparalleled by any other black administrator in a similar position.

* * *

We salute your efforts to bring about the full integration of the Morgan faculty, staff, and student body at a time when this goal was neither fashionable nor dictated by law.

We salute your wisdom in the incorporation of student membership on major college committees for the past 20 years and the stability which this tradition provided the Morgan campus at a time when many campuses were torn by the unrest of students who were denied this privilege.

We salute the bridging of international understanding which you have engendered through your love of travel and through the contributions which have been made by the foreign students and faculty who have come to our community by your urging.

* * *

We salute the rare opportunities which you have given to the citizens of our community to glimpse the noted arts and artists of your choice, and the encouragement to excellence and service which you have provided the Morgan student through the Second Mile Award, the President's Creative Achievement Award, and the President's Service Award.

We salute the recognition of your ability by the institutions of learning as diverse—as the Johns Hopkins University and the University of Liberia.

We salute and support the vision which guided the planning for "Morgan, An Urban University."

Finally, we deplore the circumstances which precipitated the announcement of your premature retirement as president of Morgan State College, as well as the forces which have conspired to undermine the efforts of the black leaders of our community, one by one.

We salute the challenge which you pass to your successor, and pray for you and your loved one a life that continues to be rich in the rewards of service.

The Sorors of Baltimore Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

FRANCES H. STITH
Acting President

CFFP Speaks

Dear AFRO:

This letter comes in defense of our organization, the Citizens For Fair Play.

Let me start by saying we are not a militant organization, only a group of citizens who have banded together to seek out and expose double standards and practices, and to try through any peaceful means to rectify, change and bring about one standard of justice for all.

Our formation came out of a town meeting over Mr. Frank Ellis' dismissal as head of CAA, when two city councilmen under indictment still occupy their seats.

We know that Mr. Ellis was appointed and that the councilmen were elected, but an indictment is an indictment!

The members of CFFP are dedicated individuals who give up their Friday evenings to attend meetings, go out into the snow and picket in front of the mayor's house on Saturdays when we could be home.

We invite the police and your paper to attend any of our meetings.

Signed,
JAMES N. CALDWELL, JR.
Exec. Secretary

Zeta Phi Beta

Dear AFRO:

On behalf of the officers and members of Alpha Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., we are grateful to you for the valuable time given us to prepare material for publication in the January 24, 1970, issue of the AFRO-AMERICAN.

We are confident that those in the community who have had the opportunity of perusing through this edition of your paper realize the joy which has come to Zeta during this year as we begin our observance and to be fortunate in having with us all of our founders.

We know that this was a big task for you, and we want to take this opportunity to say "Thank you."

MAMIE B. WILLIAMS,
Epistoleus
CATHERINE C. NEAL,
Basileus

School Board

Dear AFRO:

City Councilman Frank Gallagher should not be allowed to bring GOP Southern strategy tactics to play over such a controversial matter as the recent pupil disorder in our schools.

Rather than lash out at the School Board members, I would reason that he and other men in the City Council request the appointment of a high school student to the School Board.

I would like to see the school board's president retract his resignation.

About the five demands — I have no comment as to expressing favor or not. However, if the tension holds for another week or so, I would consider the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council Chairman, Phyllis Gray, members of Maryland Committee for Children's Youth, the Black Student Council Association of Baltimore City plus a few other young leaders to form an Ad Hoc Committee with persons, such as William Pinderhughes, Major Rex Harris, Mayor's Youth Co-ordinator, Mrs. Philip Dalling, to review these proposals again — if not offer alternatives.

LARRY YOUNG
Student Chairman, Maryland
Committee Children and Youth

POET'S NOOK

A Woman's World

A woman is a creature quaint
Who's apt to equal, who's apt to taint
But given just the slightest chance
She'll be your boss, and wear the pants.

A woman's place is in the home
Is something that you might assume
But after a little careful looking
Men do the cleaning and the cooking.

A woman's place is darning socks
And making quilts and knitting
But while my spouse is at the race track
I'm stuck with baby-sitting.

I take a dim view of her fashions
Have to tolerate their passions
And in our short and troubled life
Who in the world would want a wife.

I won't take back the things I've said
For things have changed, since first we wed
So I'm completely at a loss
As why we let the girls be boss.

PAUL D. McALLISTER

AFRO Credo

A newspaper succeeds because its managers dare believe in itself, in God and in the present generation. It must always ask itself:

Whether it has been the faith with the ever-[illegible] people.

Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved and their [illegible] [illegible].

Whether it is fighting to get rid of them by provide help for the [illegible].

Whether it stays out of political concept to engage corruption and condemn injustices and prejudice, or compromise.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR. — 1920

It's Great To Be 100

Thousands of AFRO readers join us this week in saluting two metropolitan area citizens, Mrs. Lillian Thompson and Mrs. Ella Young, who are marking their 100th birthdays — something few of us even hope to do. We congratulate them and wish all the best for them.

Just to live to be 100 in this century of confusion, frustration, war, political upheaval and pollution is a remarkable achievement in itself.

When reaching a centenarian's position, however, in apparent good health accompanied by a jovial attitude, good appetite, alertness to what is going on, and a sense of humor, it is historic and a worthy accomplishment.

Significantly both of these celebrants regard "hard work" and "sacrifice" as two of the major ingredients which helped bring them to the goal they have attained. This should be a lesson for today's youth who, in most instances, disregard these two old-fashioned virtues.

Sheldon Resignation Demand Explained

Open letter

Because of the limited space we are not able to include all of the reasons Dr. Thomas Sheldon should resign. We can only give about 20. (Dr. Sheldon is superintendent of the city's public schools).

1. Dr. Sheldon has shown a complete lack of understanding when it comes to black people's problems.

2. Dr. Sheldon feels that the solution to student protest is more police in the schools.

3. He condones police brutality in the schools.

4. He has appointed only one black principal to a predominantly white high school.

5. He was involved in a conspiracy that affected black children. (Teacher Corps)

a. This program was to involve 80 per cent black teachers and was later turned to involve 80 per cent white teachers.

b. He left the black community out of the planning.

6. Refused to talk to an organized parent group about a 98 per cent black school that has been on part-time for 7 years. This school was built to house 660 children and has 1850 pupils.

7. Refused to respond to written recommendations which had been compiled after school visitations.

8. Recommended that money which was supposed to buy books, supplies, etc. for school children be used to pay teachers' insurance.

9. Recommended that open policy be terminated. (No choice of high schools)

10. Violated Government Guidelines. (Teacher Corps)

11. Refused to let the black community have priority over the county in the use of Edmondson High School.

12. The county children have been using Edmondson High School four years or longer.

13. Contracts with companies that discriminate

a. Baltimore Transit Company

b. Random House (publishing co.)

14. Failed to make significant and relevant changes in high school curriculum.

15. Changing him with neglect.

a. Unsafe schools

b. Part-time schools

c. Deterioration conditions of black schools, etc.

16. Endorsed a discriminating curriculum for the predominately Black High Schools.

17. Is trying to control parent grievances by setting up an unfair grievance board in each school.

18. Allows threatening letters to be written to a parent who is trying to get quality education for black children.

19. He is blind to bigotry and ignores that fact that it exists in public schools.

20. Refuses to give parents a fair hearing when there is a conflict with administration and parents and allows teachers to use profane language in school.

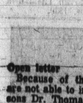
This is not theory but facts and we are asking that the school board hold a public hearing which will enable us to prove that he is incompetent, racist, and that he discriminates against black children in Baltimore City. Although we feel that changes need to be made within the whole structure there is no better place to start than at the top.

Parents United for Quality Education
Black United Front
Concerned Citizens of Baltimore

MRS. ANGELIE LEE
MRS. GOLDIE BAKER
MRS. BETTY LAWS
MRS. LOUISE MARSHOTT
ANDREW SCOT

TOGETHER

What Have You Done?



MR. DOSWELL

By RONALD J. DOSWELL

During this time in our development, it is imperative that every black person meaningfully contribute something towards the betterment of the black race.

There are many black people, from all walks of life, such as, doctors, lawyers, teachers, carpenters, housewives, students, and artisans, who are sacrificing time, energy, and money to help to uplift their less fortunate black brethren.

Then again, there are others among us, who are doing absolutely nothing in terms of aiding the race. To them this article is dedicated.

Will we as a people always look to the white man for help? Or will we develop enough dignity and respect to begin to help ourselves?

What people or race has ever become free that is dependent upon another people for its development and improvement?

What people or race has ever become free that is always looking to another people for handouts? None.

How can we help ourselves, you say? In many ways.

* * *

For example, many people say that most black children in the inner-city schools, on the average read on a lower level than their white suburban counterparts. Now, most of us have heard this problem voiced before, and when looking for an answer to it, we say it is the school's responsibility to solve this problem. But, for one reason or the other, the schools have not been able heretofore to deal effectively with the issue; excuses for this ineffectiveness usually take the form of, "we do not have enough teachers to be able to give each child individual tutoring."

* * *

Now, do we just sit back and accept these excuses from our school system, and permit the problem to continue, or do we seek to solve the problem ourselves?

Would it be so difficult for learned black people to get together to form some type of organization to help tutor black children who are having difficulty with reading? If all or even half the black teachers, lawyers, factory workers, doctors, housewives, carpenters, etc. of Baltimore committed themselves, to this task how long would this problem be with us?

Another example of how we can help ourselves is this: In the inner-city many black mothers would like to work but because of the unavailability of inexpensive day care centers for their pre-school children they are unable to do so.

Now, we have two ways we can seek to solve this problem (1) we can look to the Department of Social Services for help, but would probably get nothing but excuses and promises in regard to building the facility; or (2) we can look to the many economically well-off black churches in terms of encouraging them to have a joint fund raising activity to raise money to build a day-care center for these children in the inner-city. You say it can't be done, I think it can if the churches commit themselves to the task.

Black brothers and sisters there is nothing wrong with having a bright new shiny car, black brothers and sisters there is nothing wrong with having one of those fancy expensive apartments with the wall-to-wall carpet, and black brothers and sisters there is nothing wrong with "coping" the latest fashions off those store racks, but maybe you could put off acquiring these things for awhile until you no longer have to ask yourself what have I done to help my people.

U. Of Md. Caucus Defines Crisis

Dear AFRO:

On Monday, Feb. 23, the Black Caucus of Faculty and Staff, U. of Md., Baltimore County, voted unanimously to issue a statement to the Mayor and other city officials concerning the crisis in the Baltimore City Public School System.

Of particular concern are the increased acts of intimidation that are being directed at individuals who have been attempting to provide some clarity to the situation. Several persons have been arrested on neighbors charges and others have been threatened in an attempt to discourage community participation in solving a community problem.

Following is the letter to the mayor:

In response to the Baltimore City School crisis, The UMBC Black Caucus of Faculty and Staff feels that the present turmoil, created by the inaction and lack of responsiveness on the part of the school system and the unnecessarily increased acts of intimidation by the Police Department, has continued too long and must be resolved immediately before the situation gets beyond the point of reconciliation!

The School Superintendent, in his TV appearance of Wednesday, Feb. 18, interjected the most sane note to date into the whole confrontation between high school students and the Baltimore City School System.

When Dr. Sheldon admitted that the students did have legitimate reasons and stated that parents could put an end to the confusion and chaos, he indicated the need for more positive direct involvement by all who are responsible. The rationale of this mood of thought portends more productivity than an approach of dictatorial pressure advocated by Hyman Pressman and some City Councilmen. Such tactics of pressure pursued in the guise of law and order treat only symptoms but do nothing about bedrock causes.

For too long, black students have been thrown into the vanguard of the battle against racism which is intensified by integration of schools. It is time that adults in the person of parents, administrators, teachers and, yes, political leaders assume more realistically their various responsibilities in bringing about a satisfactory solution to the problem.

The first step in this direction was taken when you took time to listen to these young people and then by appointing a committee —including the young — to deal immediately with the issues involved. The decision not to give his support by calling upon the State Superintendent of Schools to make the issue of race relations top priority as education business.

Even though these directives are "John Lycome-lately," they give more of red and definite steps being taken in the right direction. Adults must admit that these measures could have and should have been seriously adopted years ago; but now, the students had to force them into being.

Thus before adults become too involved in censoring students, they should occupy themselves with a comprehensive survey and critical analysis of their programs to date to ward realistic integration of society. By so doing they may find themselves more guilty than the students by virtue of their detailed acts of both commission and omission.

We believe that adequate and effective machinery-highly responsible of the community — students, parents, and citizens, for intervention must be created, with clear guidelines, by which adults, students, and school personnel can find constructive means for redressing grievances resulting from existing policies and practices and establishing new policies and practices to supplant antiquated ones or to meet unmet and more relevant needs.

To our knowledge, no such machinery now exists, even though long overdue. Adults, parents, teachers, and responsible citizens, can no longer hide behind smoke screens.

The unrest, disgust, dissatisfaction, confusion, and the search of today's students, be they high school or college, have torn down such screens, laying bare the inadequacies of present day schools to meet the educational needs of today's youth and the challenges of today's society.

* * *

Today's black students do not want schools to help them "adjust" to their environment. Rather, they are demanding that schools make it possible for them to "alter" their environment and those of quality education; those who are well-fed, adequately housed and fully-employed; those who are individually happy and equipped to be socially productive; to join those who experience realistically all the advantages of first class citizenship; to become fully part of the mainstream of a democratic and free society.

Now is the time to meet this rightful demand of black students before we all, black and white, young and old, alike, become paralyzed by and ultimately extinct as a result of our hesitancy and failure to do what must be done.

The Black Caucus at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, reflecting our stated position recommend the following immediate actions that we feel would result in a meaningful reconstruction of the Baltimore City Public School System and the social environment in which we all are continuously educated:

1. Amnesty for the "Eastern High Eight."

2. Establishment of an experimental community-controlled school district in Baltimore City.

3. Curriculum innovations to meet the needs of today's youth (Black Studies; sex education, work-study programs, individualized instructions, etc.).

4. Machinery for mediation of grievances (Police Brutality; Racism ...) which reflect the drastic social changes that are polarizing the communities.

We recognize that these are only a small part of necessary changes that need to be made, however, they do strike at the most vital areas of change. These can be implemented without delay. The time for change is now!!

NORMAN V. A. REEVES,
Co-Chairman
HOWARD P. RAWLINGS,
Co-Chairman

It's NOT A Man's World

By BERNICE S. WHITE

MRS. WHITE

It might prove very interesting for groups of women to get together at some ladies tea and discuss, very frankly, the attitudes women themselves have toward each other. Ask any five of your female friends to describe the ideal woman and you are quite likely to get a pretty bleak picture of woman. Can't you just hear some of the answers now?

As Dr. Joyce Brothers stated in a recent article, "Women think women are small-minded, catty and boring. Women can't make up their minds — they're unstable, inconsistent, less intelligent and/or less thoughtful than men.

"It seems, in fact, that woman is her own worst enemy. And though extreme groups . . . accuse the male world of a conspiracy to cut females down, the sharpest critics of women are usually other women."

There is so much in-fighting among women that some of the comments made by women make about women seem almost charitable.

* * *

Some experts made a study of women in the business world, and these are some of the answers given on the questionnaire; they are not good bosses; they are too personal in giving criticism; they are jealous of one another; they do not work well with other women and they tend to have a sense of false pity. Would you believe that that particular study was done in 1928?

In 1960, the same questioners conducted the same study, with a few revisions, and history repeated itself — the conclusions were the same.

Many experts in the field agree that a major tragedy of the female sex is that friendship and respect among women have been highly regarded. Their relationships are often "shot through with feelings of rivalry."

Brides often enter into marriage with an unwarranted resentment against their mothers-in-law. Insecure wives view other women as potential husband snatchers. Attractive, well-dressed women have special problems because of the hostility aroused in those less attractive and/or well dressed.

* * *

Dr. Brothers again sums it up by saying that "we are not saying that females never trust females. Obviously, that's not true. It's when a woman is unsure of herself and feels that she is threatened by other women, particularly by those women whose life style is different.

"When, however, she has a mature acceptance of herself as an individual and as a woman, she can respond generously to others of her sex."

The truly liberated woman has no hang-ups about her role in the home and society. She does not hold onto the old signals of admiring individual achievement for men while denying it for herself. There are women who want to make a contribution in life, who want to succeed and have secret ideas of personal ambition, but throw up barriers to achieving this in order to gain acceptance either at home or socially.

* * *

Many women dislike and distrust their liberated sisters. Had those who have entered the competitive arena know what you gain in the way of self-esteem, what you gain by stretching your creative muscles and exercising your mind, the total development of one's whole being by contributing of yourself to the community and to other people.

A well-known columnist wrote just recently that there is nothing wrong in women's chemical or biological makeup that should preclude deep loyalty to those of the same sex. The sensitivity is certainly there, as is the capacity for warmth, and love, and fidelity. Women must recognize that they must make common cause with all women.

When women get around to really liking — and respecting — other women, why then, we will have begun.

Next Week: The Feminine Mystique

More On State Aid

Dear AFRO:

In response to the letter of Daniel Nitzberg, American Jewish Congress, on State Aid to Non-Public Schools, I would like to set the record straight. Mr. Nitzberg would have us believe that the American Jewish Congress is the friend of the educationally deprived child black and white and record clearly indicates the contrary is true.

The American Jewish Congress has engaged in the heartless business of undermine Church-related social, health, welfare, and education programs designed to benefit helpless children, handicapped children, poor and aged children.

A case in point: before the first educationally deprived black and Puerto Rican children had had their first remedial lesson in grammar under President Johnson's Education Act of 1965, the American Jewish Congress declared it would use to strip Christian and Jewish school children of the rights to share in the benefits of the law.

In 1968 the Michigan legislature extended health and welfare benefits to church-related school children. But before speech correctionists had encouraged the first stuttering child, and before nurses had given the first hearing and vision tests to children attending these schools, the American Jewish Congress and Americans United for Separation of Church and State filed suit in Detroit to tear from the children these benefits they need so desperately.

In the Brown case in 1954, the Supreme Court said that no State can deny a child freedom and equality in education because of color, Hence, segregation is invalid. In the Everson case of 1947, the Court said no State can deny children equality in school bus transportation "because of their faith or lack of it."

Therefore the State acting as an adversary to religion by denying these benefits is invalid.

The AFRO delegates, namely, Floyd Adams, Joseph Chester, Ike Dixon, Calvin Douglass, Lena Lee, and Lloyd Randolph, are to be commended for their abilities to combine the principles of the Brown and Everson cases into legislation aimed at putting an end to injustice and providing equal rights in education to all children.

JOHN JAMES JICHA JR.
Chairman, Membership Committee
Member, Steering Committee
Perry Hall Fair Housing Council

PTA Supports Amnesty

Resolution adopted by the executive committee of the Baltimore City Council of Parent Teacher Associations:

1. Complete amnesty for the Baltimore City Public School Students in the recent protest.

2. A thorough investigation of alleged police brutality.

3. That student representatives be included in all PTA's and the association adopt the name Parent Teacher Student Association.

4. That a liaison committee of teachers be selected by students be established in each secondary school for the purpose of hearing grievances of students. The grievances would be presented to administration and faculty and hopefully resolved at the local school level. If not resolved at the local school level, all student grievances would be presented to the Board of School Commissioners.

5. We also are at a loss as to why the Board of School Commissioners did not act immediately as proposed at its February 13, 1970 meeting to investigate the situation at Eastern Senior High School and call upon them to do so at once and take any action necessary as a result of its findings.

If YOU Ask ME

BY BETTYE M. MOSS

MRS. MOSS

Vacations, people, things

We're back home after a seven-day vacation trip which took us to St. Thomas, Virgin Islands and then over to Montego Bay in Jamaica. Too much in too short a time!

Traveling to St. Thomas gave this writer the opportunity to remember what a wise father said years ago, "never turn back."

St. Thomas is truly beautiful, warm and pleasant, but the Bluebeard Hotel we remembered as the last word when we first visited during World War 2 and learned we were not welcome, is just another hotel.

There are so many other beauty spots like the Hilton Hotel where we hung our hats.

* * *

For a magnificent view of the ocean, the Skyline Drive home of Episcopal Bishop and Mrs. Cedric E. Mills is something!

Mrs. Mills (Rebecca) and Bishop Mills (Father Mills when he pastored our St. James Church here in Baltimore), are the picture of health. The pleasant climate agrees with them. Their home is a boat-shaped beauty spot. Unique is the pure marble floor covering.

Marble is used inside as well as on the outside porch. The living room is spacious, nearly a block long. Honest.

The Diocese of the Virgin Islands has 5,000 members.

Some 1500 of them attend the church in St. Thomas. Bishop Mills has three priests on his staff.

More cuff note: Mrs. Mills is still busy with her art work. She recently sold three paintings, serves on the art board.

P.S. — They have no regrets about moving to the Virgin Islands and they look good.

* * *

Ere we departed on our island trip a Sunday, we caught a glimpse of the newlywed Mr. and Mrs. Stephen M. Travis (Jill Collins).

They were subject of many admiring glances as they moved about Friendship Airport preparing for a brief trip to New York.

And some glances not so admiring because there are many who can't take mixed marriages. For them, we recommend travel outside this country. We've mixed all up all over. Honest! You see, love knows no color line.

The day before we had attended their beautiful wedding reception at Sheraton Inn.

Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Collins (Joan) put the big pot in the little pot—dinner, champagne, dancing, singing by the bride's aunt, famed Damita Jo et al.

A beautiful and memorable wedding.

* * *

Also in Friendship that Sunday — Dr. and Mrs. Sam Bullock of D. C. They were bound for San Juan and Jamaica.

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Our paths crossed again in Puerto Rico and later at the Playboy Club in Ocho Rios (that Jamaica resort which means Eight Rivers).

You never travel these days without meeting someone from home. It happened midweek at a downtown Montego Bay restaurant.

The person who called our name was the former Doris Parker Haywood of Baltimore, now the N. Y. housing executive.

With her on her island trip were Mrs. Alexander Morriss