EDITORIALS

Cautious Step Forward

When the 4th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals sent the case of William Ralph back to the Montgomery County Court last week for resentencing, it made legal history.

Mr. Ralph is the young black man sentenced in 1961 to death in the Maryland electric chair following a rape conviction.

The court held that since the woman "was not physically abused or outwardly harmed" the imposition of the death penalty was "cruel and unusual punishment."

Several years ago, Baltimore Supreme Bench Judge Joseph C. Howard produced a monumental study of the history of discrimination in the sentencing of black men for assault on white women.

No white man had ever received the death penalty for criminal assault of a black woman in this state, yet time and again black men paid the supreme penalty when the victim was white.

Conversely, however, Judge Howard's study showed that black men received lighter sentences when victims were also black — leaving unavoidable the inference that Maryland rape laws operated in a discriminatory fashion against black men.

In Mr. Ralph's case the court did not touch on the racial issue in its official decision, but we are certain that the argument of counsel pointing out the discriminatory pattern of the law was of great influence in helping it to find as it did.

Certainly no responsible segment of citizenry believes that women, of whatever color, should have their security threatened by sick men, who usually for psychiatric reasons invade and violate them.

This same responsible citizenry also realizes that such sick men — just because the added ingredient of skin pigmentation is present — should not be put to death because of their trespass.

In taking the cautious step that it did, the court recognized the existence of "a world-wide trend" against the death penalty.

Though the decision is cautious and does not directly refer to the psychiatric and racial undertones involved, it is nonetheless a step in the right direction.

We hope the State of Maryland will not officially attempt to abate this forward step in the law by challenging the decision in the U.S. Supreme Court.

Armed School Guard

We think the debate begun in City Council Monday night on whether to place armed guards inside public junior high and high schools is unfortunate.

Our opinion is based on several considerations:

1. The City Administration has properly entrusted the operation of the schools to a duly appointed school board. Any suggestion that increased security devices are needed should come from that board and not from a group whose beliefs are suspect.

2. Aside from probable legal objections we believe that the presence of known arms within the confines of the school cannot contribute to the atmosphere of learning — any more so than can uncontrolled noise.

3. Official submission to following this method of control would be an admission of failure by city fathers of accepted educational techniques to obtain the desired learning results.

Guns, we submit, are not substitutes for sophisticated thought and intelligent motivation in the education of the young.

We believe many other persons will react to the enactment of such a proposal in much the same way that Dr. Emerson R. Julian, Democratic councilman from the 4th District, reacted.

Dr. Julian said, "If they arm the school security force, I'll take my children out of the public school."

Councilman Robert L. Douglass, D, 2nd, asked a pertinent question, "Who do they need guns to protect, the children against the children or the children against outsiders?"

Councilman Robert Marshall, D, 4th, observed, "It seems to me the matter of bringing guns into the school is senseless. Youngsters have always been rowdy in schools but the difference is that in the past teachers have been sufficiently involved to handle them."

We echo the thoughts and statements of all these gentlemen.

Repetition On OEO

We were a little surprised at the recent declaration of the Mathias Commission that the poor need to be more involved in helping the Office of Economic Opportunity to plan their own program.

Our surprise arose not because we have an ounce of disagreement, but simply because we thought that this fact was so well-known that it no longer needed saying.

Then we remembered that the OEO program was not always in Republican hands and that the initial idea to permit the people to be helped use their talents, energy and resources — and spend money — came about under the Democrats.

Part of the conservative appeal of the Nixon Administration before it took office was to promise that local political structures would be given control of OEO.

And apparently it has done so well in hobbling the poor by giving fund control to political structures, that a member of the Republican club — an enlightened and humane one in Sen. Charles Mac Mathias — has had to remind the Administration of what we thought everyone knew.

Oh well! Gary B. Wright once said something that could be instructive in this regard: "Repetition may be boring, but at the same time it can be very enlightening. How often, for instance, do we use the alphabet or multiplication table?"

Perhaps if Sen. Mathias and the Baltimore committee of concerned citizens be organized repeat the message often enough the Administration will learn the lesson.

No 'Rose Garden'

The case of Mrs. Mamie Jones, the Turner Station mother of two convicted for assaulting a white man who had previously attacked her, is classic in the lesson it teaches.

The lesson, we think, is that even under our admittedly imperfect system of justice, persistent pounding at the door with competent and adequate help can bring about equitable results.

Mrs. Jones initially received a $25 fine for striking Joseph Patryn, a white man, after the latter allegedly struck her during an outbreak of racial epithets.

Mr. Patryn was fined $750, but Mrs. Jones and her black attorney, Larry Gibson, thought it was unfair for this black mother to be punished at all under the circumstances.

Accordingly, they pressed on to higher courts in Baltimore County.

Their persistence paid off in the setting aside of Mrs. Jones' fine.

We cite this case only to note that acquiring of justice is not an activity to be gotten in what Bert Bacharach wound call a "rose garden."

"Along with the sunshine there's got to be a little rain sometime," such as when we insist on having justice.

Judge Howard Unafraid

Dear AFRO:

As one black citizen of this city who is more than just casually familiar with the many contributions and courageous commitments the Honorable Joseph C. Howard has made to the total community, I am shocked by the ostensible lack of responses to the adjectival quotes that another member of this community impugned to this extremely respected and highly positioned public servant.

One need not tax his memory to recall a few of the courageous and public acts of Judge Howard: from his speaking out against, and vigorously resisting an ambitious politician who used nefarious methods to move to the second highest office in this country;

His 8/67 Administration of Rape Cases in the City of Baltimore and the State of Maryland while still holding a position in the States Attorney's Office, to his convincing the black electorate in 1968, that indeed, it did exist and could be heard!

One thing that must be said here is that Judge Howard is not ashamed nor afraid to be identified with his people and he has, because of his honesty, candor, commitment, and "guts" been firmly accepted into the loving brotherhood of blackness.

Indicative of his character, demeanor, courage, and "guts" is his refusal to publicly respond on an equal level to what I infer was a shallow and not him into making a public statement regarding any possible political aspirations he may have.

This specious effort can result in nothing more than further dividing the community when indeed, those persons who have revealed their political ambitions should be proving to the community that they have paid their dues to justify their being considered for public office.

JOHN B. FERRON

We Stand For

Equal justice, not only in theory, but in fact before the courts of the city and state.

Adequate black representation on all public boards and commissions of Maryland cities, counties and the state itself, including colleges and universities.

Extensive and untrammeled black political power.

Equal job opportunities in fact as well as theory.

Equal housing opportunities in fact as well as theory.

Black judges on all benches of the city, county and state court systems, except those constitutionally authorized.

A black owned and operated taxicab company.

A black owned and operated bank.

A black majority on Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners.

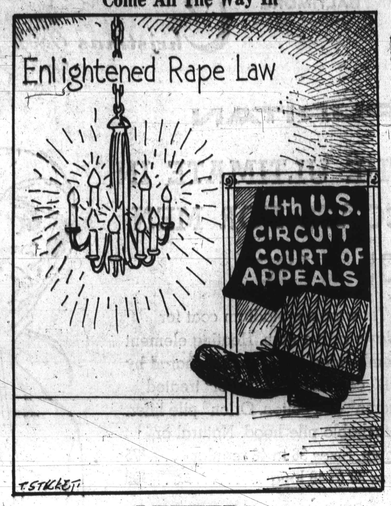
"Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of hate and bitterness." — MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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 DECEMBER 19, 1970

"Come All The Way In"



LETTERS

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 1557, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

Wants Change

Dear AFRO:

It has been very difficult not to follow current happenings in the local school system. There seems to be great antagonism between the School Board and Mr. Sheldon, the superintendent.

It would appear from the editorials and articles which appear in your paper that the trouble is solely that of the black members of the School Board. I am afraid that reasonable people, black and white, will not accept that position.

I can recall that when Mr. Sheldon was hired two years ago that there was a feeling that he would bring the School Board together and bring real plans for better education for all of our children.

Today, it has to be admitted, even by your editorial staff and writers, that the educational system has worsened and the gulf between the School Board and the superintendent has widened. Was this the reason for offering this man $50,000?

It seems to me that the time has arrived not only for changes on the school board, but also the superintendent who appears well-intentioned but has not been able to deliver the goods for our children. It may be that we can acquire somewhere in this nation a leader for our schools at $50,000 a year who can bring quality education for our children and unity in the schools.

DONALD V. WESTERBURG

On School Board

Dear AFRO:

I attended my first School Board meeting last night (Dec. 3), at 25th Street. I was highly impressed with the actions taken by the Black School Board members and Mr. Macht (Philip Macht).

Another reason for attending was because I wanted to show my open support for Mr. Banks (Samuel) who taught one of my children at Carver in 1960 and the Social Studies group for their outstanding work.

Finally, we have the opportunity to see our people in a favorable way.

Mr. Banks is a courageous and unusual educator who has made it clear to the total community that the contributions of our people will be shown in all of the Baltimore City Public Schools. My hat is off to Mr. Banks.

My hat is off also to the black school board members and Mr. Macht who have served the educational needs of our community beautifully. Thank you Brothers and Sisters for making me feel black and proud for myself and my children.

ISAAC LUTHER JOHNSON

Sensitive Citizens

Dear AFRO:

Tuesday morning, November 23, 1970, fire broke out in the 2000 block of Garrison Boulevard leaving three families homeless during the Thanksgiving holidays (Mr. and Mrs. Jack Arrington and their three children; Mrs. Linda Rogers and her six children; Mrs. Elaine Thorne and four of her children).

I would like to commend Mrs. Alberta Smith of 2404 Allendale Road and Reverend Dawkins, pastor of the Progressive Baptist Church for rendering their service to these distressed families. I would like to say thanks to Mrs. Alberta Smith for being concerned enough to take one of the families into her home, and to Reverend Dawkins whose efforts were instrumental in securing emergency services for these families.

When tragedy strikes, it is gratifying to know that there are those of us who are willing to give a little of ourselves to help those that are less fortunate.

KENNETH L. WEBSTER

COLUMNS

Perspective

Provocative Blacks

By DAVID E. SLOAN

Two events of the past week set me to thinking about the provocative position of black people in America today.

I use "provocative" in the sense that everytime we come up as the subject of discussion or action, everyone pays rapt attention and seems unsure of just what to do.

One of the episodes was the appearance of J. Edgar Hoover, director of the FBI before tre House Subcommittee on Appropriations, seeking a supplemental budget of more than $14 million to be added to the $260 millions already appropriated for 1971.

In making his pitch, Mr. Hoover rellied heavily on the increased activities of what he refeeed to as "Black extremists" and the Black Panther Party.

Here is some of what he said to the law-makers:

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"During recent months there has been an alarming increase in the number of extremist-inspired attacks against law enforcement officers, with a majority of the cases involving black extremist elements.

"Information available to the FBI indicates that during 1970, through Nov. 12, a total of 211 racially motivated assaults occurred during which 23 law enforcement officers were killed and at least 181 others were injured."

To support this analysis of the situation, Mr. Hoover pointed to four situations: the shoot-out in San Rafael, Calif. in which two black prisoners were killed as well as a white judge; the bombings of the Portuguese Embassy in Washington in August, 1970; the alleged discovery of a cache of arms allegedly collected by the Tyler, Tex. Back Liberation Front, a group in that city which was said to be angry about the refusal to change the name of newly erected Robert E. Lee High School in Tyler;

And the fire bombing of the Veterans of Foreign Wars building in Cairo, Ill. where housing disputes have brewed for the past two years.

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On the Panthers, Hoover said, "Panthers have been directly responsible for killing 11 police officers and wounding 64 others.

"Within the past several years, the party has been involved in direct gun battles with local police on a number of occasions.

"Since August 31, there have been four such instances at Philadelphia, Toledo, New Orleans and Detroit.

"Panthers have substantial connections with hostile foreign elements, notably the communist regime in North Korea and Arab terrorists in Algeria, Arab guerrillas and other Arab elements are reportedly heavily subsidizing the Panthers ...."

You may be sure that after all this provocative talk, Director Hoover will get his additional $14 million for 1,000 additional agents, 702 clerks and 500 more automobiles."

But those of us who have met any Panthers know that this will not deter the promulgation of their philosophies.

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The second episode which I choose to describe as "provocative" this past week was a lecture I heard made to prime contractors on a vast new building project in Philadelphia.

The regional director of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare told this group of mostly white businessmen in blunt and almost insulting language that they had to comply with federal regulations which set forth certain quotas for black and other minority workers in a long list of building trades.

The director, a white man, ended by saying words to this effect: "You've got to comply with this without tricks and without collusion with unions, and you've got to tell us monthly and whenever we visit the site how you are complying. If you don't, the contract is subject to being cancelled and we shall "be coming after you with show cause orders" and other measures.

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Reflecting on these two events, I wondered if the second one could happen without the presence of the first one ... in other words whether our progress within the vast, powerful system of American life can be achieved without the credible threat by some to tear up and destroy the institutions of American life whenever and wherever the opportunity is present.

This is a provocative question and we are indeed provocative people.

TOGETHER Coalition Views On Schools

By HOWARD P. RAWLINGS

MR. RAWLINGS

The following is a statement made by UMBC Professor Howard P. Rawlings on behalf of the Black Coalition of the University of Maryland campuses in regard to Baltimore City public schools:

"The Black Coalition of the University of Maryland Campuses is an executive committee composed of the leadership of all the Black organizations in the University of Maryland.

"These organizations are the UMBC — Black Caucus of Faculty and Staff, the Black Student Faculty Coalition at the Professional Schools, the Black Student Unions at the College Park and Baltimore County campuses and the Student Government Association at the Eastern Shore campus (formerly Maryland State).

"The major objective of our organization is to relate the resources of the University of Maryland to the needs of the Black Community.

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It would be an over-sight on our part to ignore the educational system that has the major responsibility for the academic and cultural training of our Black citizens of the State of Maryland — the Baltimore City Public Schools.

Consequently, we feel it is necessary, in light of the state of flux and uncertainty that surrounds the present Board of School Commissioners, to define for you our position with regard to public education in the City of Baltimore.

1. We are in support of the present ideological character of the School Board which we perceive as being proponents of progressive educational policies that have resulted in the increased involvement of the total community in the educational process.

2. In keeping with our philosophy that Black people must control their destiny, and also relevant educational practice, we feel that it is imperative that the Board of School Commissioners have a Black majority.

3. Being aware that the terms of Samuel Daniels and Philip Macht expires as of December 31, 1970 and that Mr. Macht has indicated that he will not accept a reappointment, we commend both men for their dedication and responsive service to the citizens and in particularly the students of Baltimore. Additionally, we in concert with the efforts of the Black Community, vigorously support the reappointment of Samuel Daniels to the School Board and the replacement of Mr. Macht by another Black member.

4. We are in overwhelming support of Mr. Samuel Banks and the Commission on the Revision of the Social Studies Curriculum in their efforts to remove racism from the public school curriculum.

5. We have strong feelings about reports in our community that certain School Board members, in particular Mr. Nicholas Mangione, have shown blatant disrespect to our Black School Board members. We will relate to other groups in the Black Community that intend to deal in an effective way with this matter. Mr. Mangione has indicated a lack of proper sensitivity towards the educational needs of the citizens of the Baltimore City Public School System and should be removed from office."

Russell Tribute

The AFRO's Max Johnson has been a newspaperman for over 30 years and has reported many news happenings.

You may be sure that when Max begins to use superlatives and to become excited about any event, that occasion is unusual.

Max got excited about the testimonial for City Solicitor George L. Russell, Jr. given by community leaders who unofficially are interested in the Russell candidacy for mayor in 1971.

Listen to Mr. Johnson enthuse: "The setting for the testimonial far outdistanced any of its kind held in recent months at the Civic Center including that of Gov. Mandel's get-together.

After describing lush outlays of fruits, meat and other delicacies, Max concluded:

"Actually there was something there for everybody — and almost every edible imaginable including oysters."

Clearly neither Mr. Johnson nor we have ever seen anything like the Russell testimonial before — not only in the elaborate layouts but in the broad conglomeration of friends present to sing praises of the City Solicitor.

Whether that kind of Gentleman can be truly fitted into a Democratic campaign for mayor remains to be seen.

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 assured;

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

Whether it stays out of politics except when politics comes to demand compromise of principle;

MRS MOSS

If You Ask Me

BY BETTYE MOSS

A Prayer For This Week

This is the fourth in a series of original prayers dedicated to a father who wrote poetry and prayers —

Dear Lord: Many thanks for the joys of this week...this year...this day...in particular thank Thee for Thy goodness in sharing with us the life of a gracious and fine lady, Mrs. Rosa N. Hampton, whom you called home last week at the age of 90.

Thank you for the young men and women who are in charge of the new $16 million Provident Hospital which opened this week. Their enthusiasm and devotion to duty have made possible this new community venture...

And, as we approach the last week in the year, we pray, Lord, that these among us who would impede the progress for equal rigrts for all Thy children will see the light and learn quickly to practice the brotherhood you taught.

And, if we seem impatient, Lord, forgive us, for you know how hard the way has been and how for over 300 years we've struggled for the rights you've given us.

Guide us all, Lord, as we go about the busy tasks at hand and keep us sweet and kind and true to Thee. AMEN.

About people, places, things

Off to Haifa, Israel for 15-day trip which will take them to the headquarters of their religious order, the Bahai are Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Byrd (Mabel). They left Thursday.

Here from San Francisco to keep house while they are away are their son and daughter-in-law, the Eugene Byrds Jr. (Laura) and their year-old son, Christopher, who is a ball of fire.

• • •

Belated and happy birthday hellos to Mrs. Mabel Goff Braxston, who was 84 on Dec. 12.

A former Baltimorean, Mrs. Braxston is the widow of Winfort Braxston. For years, they lived in the 2100 block Druid Hill Ave.

Hellos will reach Mrs. Braxston at 115-33 174th St., St. Abans, L.I., N.Y., where she lives with her daughter, Mrs. Augusta Baker Gordon.

Cuff note: Many know Mrs. Gordon, too. She is coordinator of children's services witr the N.Y. Public Library.

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Love note: Edward L. Clapp, the teacher, and Bernice R. Young, also a teacher, have a Christmastime date with the person.

They'll exchange vows at Douglas Memorial Church, 11 a.m., Dec. 26. It is a second time around for both.

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Happiest young person in our town this week is Mrs. Antoinette Baylor. She had a long distance call from her husband, Sgt. Shawn Baylor, stationed in Vietnam.

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Cuff note: Lee Martin is the new president of Real Estate Brokers of Baltimore. Election came Wednesday evening during meeting at James Brown Motor Inn.

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Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Thurman W. Zollicoffer Sr., as they celebrate their 18th anniversary tomorrow.

Mr. and Mrs. Zollicoffer who hail from Littleton, N.C., have resided in Baltimore for the past 16 years. Mr. Zollicoffer is a foreman at Sparrows Point.

The Zollicoffers are the parents of three; Helen Carolyn, 16; Thelma Annette, 12; and Thurman W. Zollicoffer Jr., 8.

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state Senator Verda F. Welcome's father, John M. Freeman is in an Asheville, N.C. hospital.

Her older sister, Mrs. Rosalie Wyatt, is hospitalized in Salisbury, N.C. She's the wife of the Rev. McKinley Wyatt, pastor of First Baptist Church here.

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So glad-you're-better cards to Union Memorial Hospital for Mrs. Rebecca Gwathney of Green Spring Valley.

She's the mother of Mrs. Alice Pinderhughes. She had surgery on Tuesday, hopes to be home by Christmas.

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Continue prayers, please for Tazewell Lewis, the AFRO photoengraver. He remains ill in Lutheran Hospital.

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Hellos to Hopkins Hospital for Wendy Holman, the City College student. He had an appendectomy this week.

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GET WELL WISHES TO: Mrs. Ivory Savage, 3315 Liberty Heights Ave. who is at Sinai Hospital.

The beloved blind woman is the mother of NAACP Field Executive Philip Savage, formerly active in the Baltimore Civil Rights movement and now of Philadelphia.

Mrs. Savage's other children are George and Maurice Savage and Mrs. Beatrice Friend.

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Also, send cheer to Kenneth Purdy, 1905 Division St.

He was rushed to City Hospitals last Thursday.

He is the longtime Sparrows Point employee and husband of Mrs. Mary Davenport Purdy, the St. Marks Baptist Church member.

More About People, Things

Poet note: Paul D. McAllister, whose poems appear regularly in this newspaper, won new honors a Friday ago at Prince George Community College.

He was elected a member of the board of directors of the Mid. State Poetry Association. Also elected; Mrs. Pam Williams and Donnie Fleming.

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Up in Cloud 9 are Little Rocky and Dettones. They are the Baltimore teenage entertainers who had a boss date to benefit Junior Village in Washington on Saturday evening.

The affair netted over $14,000 and the youngsters are still raving about rubbing elbows with VIP congressmen and other dignitaries, including Mrs. Ethel Kennedy.

Members of the group, coordinated by Mrs. Rachel Eaton, are Anthony Felder, 17 (Little Rocky); Marvin Walden, 18, bass guitar; Melvin Cade, 17, trumpet; Samuel Hooper, 17, guitar; Joseph Crossen, 18, trumpet; Stephen Ross, 18, organ; Ron Shepherd, 16, trombone.

Also, Louis Eaton, 16, drummer; Leo Casino, 24, the Howard University grad, is sax theme. Mrs. Eaton, a dietity grad, is joined by 7-year-old Herbie Eaton, the dancer. He wowed the group in D.C.

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Cuff note: Fells Point Information Center, 809 S. Broadway, phone, 276-5751, says you can sell your hobby items for Christmas if you'll bring them there. All are welcome.

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Good singing is the order of the day St. James Episcopal Church where the young choirmaster's name is Maurice Murphy.

At Sunday morning services, the girls' choir was perfectly beautiful, particularly the young soprano voices of Gail Thomas, Juana and Millie Wilson, and Cheryiann Cunningham.

And, the senior choir was beautiful too at tre requiem high mass for longtime member, Mrs. Rosa N. Hampton on Tuesday.

Bob choirs were magnificent for the Sunday evening celebration of the 25th anniversary of the rector, Father Donald O. Wilson.

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Date note: The Charm Center and performing Arts Activity Groups of Harlem Park Community School will present a Christmas musical dance recital on Monday, 7 p.m.

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 1557, 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 can be found.

BIG BROTHER Howard Larkins entertains Little Brothers Wayne Burton, Perish Gray and Warren Furger-son. See reader's letter on this service organization below.

QUESTION: What is the Big Brother organization?

ANSWER: One of our readers answered this question better than we could. So we print herewith her letter to us as an answer to this inquiry:

Big Brother

Dear AFRO:

This Thanksgiving my son and I were very thankful to a young man named Dennis Reichelt. He has generously given a few hours each week to my son's pleasure. He is one of the many unselfish young men who are Big Brothers. We who are mothers of Little Brothers need more Big Brothers.

You know it can be rough when a young boy needs a man's advice and there is only Mom around. But, as the kids put it "It an be tough not to have a Big Brother he can look up to." They need a man to talk with, every now and tren on things women just don't understand.

Sure, Mom can catch a ball, but Oh, boy! ugh! She tries her best at those long passes, but what a short arm they must have.

Young man, how about a bike ride with a boy on a Saturday afternoon? fine for the middle age spreads too, if it's starting. Listen there, grandpa, there isn't any reason why you can't "join the habit" of the Big Brothers either.

Yes, Denny, I hope the Editor of the AFRO will allow this letter to be published in hopes it will help some mother's son to find a "Big Brother" (by name that is) under his Christmas tree.

So as the song says "Come on everybody love your brother."

We mothers of Little Brothers ask, please come along and be a Big Brother for some needy Little Brother.

It doesn't cost a thing but a little time and understanding. Won't you please call Big Brothers of Baltimore, 685-6210, to see if you can fill some fatherless boy's stocking?

QUESTION: I've been confined to the Maryland Penitentiary since 1965 on the charge of robbery with a deadly weapon.

I was granted a parole this month but I can't be released until I have a definite residence and job. Can you recommend agencies that offer such aid or who could tell me where I should seek help? — P.D.

ANSWER: Contact the Prisoners' Aid Association of Md., Inc., Old Town Bank Building, Fallsway and Gay Sts., in Baltimore. It sounds like the agency you have in mind. Another though still a part of Prisoners' Aid, is Halfway House, 1519 Druid Hill Ave., which acts as a mediator between prison and life after a prisoner's release.

In the Spotlight

The first 18 years of Darryl A. Echols' life have been filled with pain, fractured arms and over 200 stiches.

Regardless of so many accidents and injuries he was a 1970 summer counselor, is a Northern High School first string defensive end and maintains a good scholastic record.

When Darryl, now a Northern High senior, was three years old, he suffered a fractured arm while playing. That was the first of a series of accidents and injuries which left him with his vision permanently impaired in one eye, a surgical pin in one jaw and 200 stiches covering his body.

During the years Darryl has encountered other accidents while at play, which left him: at age 4, with a lacerated scalp and 8 stitches; age 7, fractured arm; age 9, severely lacerated scalp, a concussion and 30 stitches; age 11, a fractured arm which required surgical setting and open arm redress; also at age 11, struck by a stone which resulted in a hemorrhage and clotting in the eye chamber which left the vision of one eye permanently impaired.

When Darryl was 17-years-old he had acute appendicitis and spent several weeks recovering in the hospital. Two months later, in January of this year, he was attacked by five "wannabees" at the Alameda and Loch Raven Blvd.

Trying to protect his girl friend and 16-year-old brother, Duane, a 10th-grader at Polytechnic, Darryl was severely beaten, kicked and cut.

A pin was surgically placed in his jaw, fractured in two places, and the cuts required over 150 stitches. On Memorial Hospital's critical list for two days, he spent eight weeks recovering with a wired jaw.

The five attackers didn't get away. They were caught in the hospital, one had been injured during the struggle, by Darryl's quick-thinking father, David A. Echols, a Baltimore fire fighter for 17 years.

"I had their descriptions and they went to the same hospital where I had rushed my son."

All the bad times are behind Darryl now and he has developed into a sports enthusiast. Swimming is one of his favorites and he speaks highly of physical fitness.

Darryl is already making plans to attend Morgan State College and major in sociology as his father did.

The other member of the Echols family is his mother, Mrs. Mae Echols, a Social Security Administration employee.

DARRYL A. ECHOLS

Man's World

By BERNICE S. WHITE

More Thoughts On Happiness

Continuing our weekly assessment of happiness, AFRO reader J. Sims submits this one: Happiness is when the doctor tells you it's a baby boy and the new mother and baby are both in good health.

A teenage friend volunteers: Happiness is when the telephone rings and it's the right person on the other end.

A housewife suggests: Happiness is when the furnace man says 'yes, we can fix it for you.'

Happiness, says a pleasingly plump reader is when you find the stylish dress you like has a deep seam up both sides.

• • •

In a dentist's office: It's when the doctor tells me I don't have to have my tooth removed.

In the bus station: When that ticket seller said the bus was late and I was on time.

Happiness is when a friend whispers, "I like you."

Happiness is when the plane lands safely on the ground.

Happiness is when you hear your mother's favorite hymn in church.

• • •

The young women in the feminist movement are saying that women have been forced to accept an inferior role in society and have come to believe in their own inferiority. Nothing much will happen to change this until there is a fundamental alteration in the attitudes about women in our society.

One aspect of this clearly involves a transformation in the attitudes of women themselves not to expect much of themselves in individual fulfillment and to accept the proposition that their feminine role. Women do not value themselves. They do not set long range goals for themselves — always seeming to operate on a crisis basis.

There must be enlightened planning in the education of girls from childhood to maturity to lay the groundwork for change. Parents, teachers, counselors, peers, husbands, employers and women themselves are those, in the final analysis, who determine the educational, vocational, and life goals of women.

And today there is a distinct failure on the part of these persons who guide girls to recognize some of the fundamental differences between developmental patterns of males and females and to make plans based on these differences. Girls are not taught that they are expected to be wives and mothers. Girls are not taught that they are expected to be wives and mothers.

But actually the deck is stacked against them (though they may not know it) by the limited attitudes that history has had us assume, that has taught us our attitudes, and we in turn teach the next generation.

Basic attitudes about sex roles are learned first in the family. Increased flexibility in women's roles must be learned through teaching and example in the family.

Unfortunately, the social conditioning of girls begins in childhood when father goes out to work and mother stays home. These images are further perpetuated by school textbooks and commercials on TV. Take a look at these sappy soap ads.

When women can really think about and express their thoughts, they do so in terms of their experience as raising of children — what they put down is the fixation. A woman's role as wife and mother should not deny her being more than a mere role as husband and father denies him) the right to individual expression. The right, if you will, to become an astronaut or President of the United States.

There are signs that traditions are breaking down, but unless better planning and help are given to new young women and to those who will see another generation of women who have been taught to be passive dependent and limited careers, but ready to partake even in veiled contempt towards

NOW And THEN These, Too, Are Politics

with G. JAMES FLEMING

DR. FLEMING

It was hard to believe last week, Wednesday, that the first public hearing to explain the proposed rapid transit system through Baltimore City was being held in the heart of Black Baltimore.

This is the Baltimore that was so politically alive and aware during the September primary and the November general election. But, you would not have known it from the poor turnout.

Altogether, only 25 persons showed that they were interested and, most of the evening, the number was under 25.

Only this handful showed itself aware that politics is more than competing bodies — haranguing, charging, claiming.

This part-subway transit system will go through several of the neighborhoods where black people live and have businesses. It will provide speedy, low-cost transportation for those who find jobs in the industries which are being located outside the city.

This long-talked-of expressway will also call for new monies — monies which eventually must come from increased taxation.

But despite all that is involved, only 25 people attended the hearing.

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This lack of attendance is following a well-known pattern. Few blacks are ever seen at hearings, committee meetings of the state legislature, or meetings of the City Council. They seem to say, "These meetings are not our business."

Nevertheless, such meetings are everybody's business, and no less the business of black Baltimoreans than of our other fellow Baltimoreans.

Are blacks totally satisfied with the proposed transit route, from Owings Mills to Glen Burnie?

Are they satisfied with the proposed method (or plan) of financing the project? Do they know enough of the ramifications?

If the Metropolitan Transit Authority had bypassed or ignored the black community, there would have been protests and accusations hurled against the agency, and deservingly so. But, what about the ignoring and by passing when it is from the other direction?

The time has come when black Baltimoreans must broaden their political interests beyond boosting one man or a team over another. They must come to understand that there is more to politics and citizenship than swashbuckling oratory.

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In the final analysis, most of life in a big city, such as Baltimore, is political, for instance: the public shools — how they are supported, and the crowdedness of their classrooms; the pattern of trash collection and whether certain neighborhoods are neglected; the administration of public health and whether meats and other edibles are duly inspected; and numerous other matters.

But, many of these unexciting issues often greatly affect the masses of people — just as the new expressway also does affect them, for better or worse.

If the public interest is to be protected, more rank and file people, and their organizations, must keep abreast of what is happening in the city hall and legislative chambers of their respective cities and states.

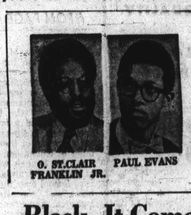
They must study proposed laws and projects; they must attend hearings and draft petitions; they must be present.

Some ideas and projects can be "nipped in the bud" at the hearing stage — or encouraged! They are often beyond recall when they have become law or have been converted into steel and mortar. Good causes also fail because of lack of people-centered support.

Protest at a hearing can beat protest at a mass meeting three years later

Little things, such as schools and hot lunches, parks and playgrounds, pay for nurses and policemen, increased rates for taxes and telephone — these, too, are political, in their context for dollars and for support.

These too, call on voters and other citizens for their interest and concern.



O. ST.CLAIR FRANKLIN JR. PAUL EVANS

Evans And Franklin

Black—It Comes In All Colors

By PAUL EVANS

The December issue of ESQUIRE has an article entitled "Who Hates Whom?" with a lead paragraph that begins..."Prejudice can be fun — particularly when it's directed at another guy. But when YOUR the other guy, well, you know how it feels..."

Blacks in this country have thought, and most of the time, rightly so, that we were ALWAYS the OTHER GUY, but the article and its authors change things to a slightly different tune.

The article is a rather intricate study of prejudice in the U.S. Noting that every group has its prejudices, the authors divided the country into three socio-economic groups: Low, Middle and Upper, using education as the criterion — with distinguishing areas being those who completed grammar school as one group, high school completion as another, and college graduation as the other.

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The authors then compared all of the country's ethnic groups and religious groups on the basis of in what part of the country they lived and how much education they had gotten.

For example, a white Protestant living in the Eastern part of the country, and who has finished college — certain prejudices toward Jews — moderate prejudicial feelings which run high when 'they' try to 'push' into your private club or top corporate echelons.

Toward blacks — only mildly antagonistic, as your job, neighborhood and schools are secure; can accept social mixing with blacks of similar status.

The most interesting part, is the discussion of the black man, who lives in the North, is either Protestant or Catholic, and who has finished college.

The writers note he is "Conventionally militant — a card-carrying member of the NAACP and the Urban League — and aligned with the White Establishment.

"You can be condescending toward lower-class blacks, and TAN may still be more beautiful (than black). The younger and newer arrival of this group is more sympathetic to extreme militants — though not likely to become one.

"Your feeling toward Jews is both a reflection of your anti-well, semi-guilt and sense of Jewish domination of your less-privileged brother, and it extends in like proportions to other ethnic interests you see occupying a similar role."

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After finishing with the northern, black Protestant or anti-well, semi-guilty graduate, the article switches to his counterpart who lives in the South.

Of this group, it notes: "You can be counted by the handfuls; largely professional working in black schools and colleges and serving in the black community almost exclusively.

"More anti-white resentment than your northern 'class' brother but less inclined than your northern brother to do something about it — or both counts because of your exposure to southern values.

"However, your higher status and general social participation make you the least hostile of all black Southerners. Note: Blacks of all classes and regions have been taught to mask their real feelings toward whites and even from each other, and to the extent that this is true, and truer in the South than anywhere, the depth of prejudicial feeling may be understated."

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To give a balanced weight to the situation I am describing, what the article has to say about the uneducated, poor black (Catholic or Protestant) living in the North and South is most important.

Of this segment of the black population living in the North, it notes:

"For some of you the struggle for survival is so great you don't differentiate hates: Whitey is the enemy. Where you do particularize, (or distinguish hates) there's economically motivated prejudice based on personal contact with merchants, landlords, employers.

"Intense feelings toward Puerto Ricans (New York and Chicago) and in California, the Mexicans are white rivals for the jobs, public attention and liberal support. Your anti-Semitic feeling runs higher than that of your southern counterpart, but it is about equal to the Northern whites of the same socio-economic group.

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Of the uneducated, Protestant or Catholic black in the South, the article states:

"A majority languishing in poverty and praying for a hand-up from the S.C.L.C. (Martin King's group). More anti-white feeling, particularly in the cities and more of your young than in rural areas for all ages.

"Your anti-Semitism is negligible in all areas, as is negative feeling toward specific ethnic minorities. Basically, you don't distinguish among white men; can't see beyond their faces and the power they have over you.

"However, as more blacks are stirred to militancy you may be 'up' — eventually."

In this writer's judgment, the conclusion which can be drawn from this lengthy article is that BLACK PEOPLE are not all of one COLORS. It merely demonstrates how difficult and complex life is where one lives.