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

FOUNDED IN 1892
By John H. Murphy Sr.
1840-1922
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Praise For Michelson and Justice Douglass

Anne Arundel's Judge Benjamin Michaelson was reluctant to convict 9 Annapolis sit-downers of trespass. His hesitancy is understandable.

When the United States Supreme Court divides into three camps on the same subject, any lower judge is entitled to his doubts.

• • •

"Restaurants, whether in a drug store, department store, or bus terminal, are a part of the public life of most of our communities. Though they are private enterprises, they are public facilities in which the states may not enforce a policy of racial segregation.

"It is my view that a State may not constitutionally enforce a policy of segregation in the public use of restaurant facilities. Some of the argument assumed that restaurants are "private" property in the sense that one's home is "private" property.

"They are, of course, 'private' property for many purposes of the Constitution.

"Yet so are street railways, power plants, warehouses, and other types of enterprises which have long been held to be affected with a public interest.

"Where constitutional rights are involved, the proprietary interests of individuals must give way.

"Those who run a retail establishment under permit from a municipality operate, in my view, a public facility in which there can be no more discrimination based on race than is constitutionally permissible in the more customary types of public facility.

"Restaurants, though a species of private property, are in the public domain.

"I do not believe that a State that licenses a business can license it to serve only whites or only blacks or only yellows or only browns. Race is an impermissible classification when it comes to parks or other municipal facilities by reason of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. By the same token, I do not see how a State can constitutionally exercise its licensing power over business either in terms or in effect to segregate the races in the licensed premises.

"The authority to license a business for public use is derived from the public. Negroes are as much a part of that public as are whites. A municipality granting a license to operate a business for the public represents Negroes as well as all other races who live there. A license to establish a restaurant is a license to establish a public facility and necessarily imports, in law, equality of use for all members of the public.

"The necessity of a license shows that the public has rights in respect to those premises. The business is not a matter of mere private concern. Those who license enterprises for public use should not have under our Constitution the power to license it for the use of only one race.

• • •

The present state administration is responsible for freedom riders and pickets.

It has refused to repeal the silly trespass law or pass a civil rights statute. Most of all, it permits the police power of the state to be used to enforce discriminatory practices in these quasi public inns and eateries.

The determination of students and leaders of both races to do away with segregation practices has been subjected to the usual badgering by the do-nothing segregationists.

They say, go slow, write letters, call on public officials, hold mass meetings, be orderly and patient.

This is to be interpreted as saying do not agitate, do not in order to secure reforms.

Instead, petition us, beg us.

No one with the ballot begs anybody any more.

No sit-downer compromises on the question of civil rights.

Anyone who says differently is wasting his breath.

They are not fooling anybody.

We have never had the privilege of voting for a colored judge of Circuit Court rank in Maryland.

Would the Monumental Bar like to put up two candidates, one a Republican and the other a Democrat in the next election? Perhaps one should be a woman—after all women are voters too.

If they are in earnest, they can do it.

Inexcusably Low

The State Board of Education calls a special meeting in January to review the progress of desegregation in county schools since the Supreme Court's decision in 1954.

Richard Schifter, a Prince George's County attorney, a member of the Board, is doing the prodding.

It's well-timed, for up to now the State Board of Education has been as effective as Mother Goose in ending racial discrimination in some counties.

Look at this integration score in these counties:

	Total Colored Pupils	Colored in Mixed Schools
Calvert	2,226	0
Caroline	1,044	0
Dorchester	2,202	0
Kent	916	0
Queen Anne's	1,099	0
Somerset	1,888	0
Wicomico	2,831	0
Worcester	2,182	0

Of 3,955 colored students in Montgomery County, 3,216 are attending biracial schools on the other hand.

In Prince Georges County, only 455 of the 8,735 students are enrolled in biracial schools.

If this is the best the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education can do, in seven years, their efficiency ratings are inexcusably low.

One Every Two Years

One evidence of the growth of denominations is the number of new churches established year by year.

A release of the Episcopal Church shows 144 parishes in Maryland and 11 new ones in the past 28 years. This is fewer than 1 every 2 years. In the 19 year period, 1933 to 1943, no new parishes are listed.

The church expanded more rapidly in earlier years.

Under Bishop Stone, 1831 - 1845, twenty - one new parishes were set up in 14 years;

Under Bishop Whittington, 1845-1889, there were forty new parishes in 35 years;

Under Bishop Paret, 1889 - 1912, twenty-eight churches in 22 years.

The earlier church must have had something that is lacking today.

Established in 1671 in Maryland, the Episcopal Church is 290 years old and has 90,000 members.

Perhaps it wishes to keep its memberships small. Certainly, it isn't reaching out its hands to the 750,000 new citizens who come to Maryland every 10 years.

Note To Bar Group

The Monumental Bar Association wrote Governor Tawes that its nominations for Supreme Bench positions have regularly been ignored.

Perhaps the Association would like to demonstrate the impatience with the failure of governors to appoint colored lawyers of high standing to judicial positions.

After all, judges are elected by the voters and we do have some votes.

How Uncle Does It

Since 1936, most of us have been paying $90 a year to Uncle Sam for old age pensions.

In the last few years, these payments have been increased to $138 a year.

The other day, John Doe, who had paid a total of $2,520 into Social Security during his lifetime, went into the Old Age and Survivors office on Greenmount Avenue, and signed up for an annual pension of approximately $1,800.

Reason.—He had reached his 72nd year, and all persons over 72 get pensions, no matter whether they work or not, and no matter how much they earn.

In two years, every 72-year-old person gets back every cent he paid into Social Security for old age pension.

How can Uncle Sam do it?

Well, a lot of us pay into Social Security, and never take anything out. We don't reach 65, much less 72.

May 1962 Be Brighter

Sightseeing

Some Of My Best Friends Are Cabbies

BY JAMES D. WILLIAMS

Some of the nicest fellows I know are taxi-cab drivers.

That is to say, they are nice fellows . . up until that fatal moment when they get behind the steering wheel of a cab.

Then they are immediately transformed into fire - breathing, short-tempered, impolite demons of the road, where greatest pleasure seems to be to make life just as miserable as possible for the rest of the world.

Thankfully, not all cab-drivers are like this, but there are enough around to create the impression of anti-sociability.

• • •

THERE'S ONE emotion they seem to exhibit constantly — anger.

They're either angry with the dispatcher, the Police Department, the passengers with a number of bags, or civilian motorists—and sometimes they're angry with all of them at the same time.

So when a passenger gets in the cab his ears are bombarded with the driver's blasts against the rest of the world — not that the passenger is even faintly interested in the lives and loves of the driver.

This lack of interest, however, has never been known to silence a cab driver once he started.

A passenger can sit as wordless as the Sphinx, and still the flow of conversation goes on and on.

I've finally come to the conclusion that the drivers don't actually expect the passenger to engage in the conversation — just to listen to his monologue.

And once you're inside a cab, he's got you . . So where are you going!

• • •

DRIVERS SEEM to think that the world owes them a succession of healthy tips.

If you depart from a cab without tipping the driver, you might as well commit a major crime.

At the very least, you'll get a look that could shrivel a rose off a bush. If the driver just happened to have had one of those bad days, that sometimes afflict us all, you're just liable to have your ears curled with some very choice and explicit language.

A number of drivers have developed to a fine art, a conditioning technique, to make the separation of a rider from his money, all the easier.

As soon as you enter the cab, the driver begins to spout off about cheap passengers and how they should all be placed in a paper bag and dumped in the nearest river.

By the time you have finished your ride, the conversation has gotten into just the right frame of mind, so that you quite willingly hand over a healthy tip.

After all, who wants to be known as a "cheaperoo?"

• • •

IF THE driver actually did something to deserve a tip, it would make the process less painful.

But take the driver who stops in the middle of the street, (if he stops at all) and lets you get in the best way you can; be you male or female.

And there are some drivers who seem to be afflicted with "straight-ahead vision. The only way they will stop, is for you to jump in front of the cab. . and this method of getting a ride, does have certain pretty apparent dangers attached to it.

• • •

ONCE IN the cab, the flood gates open, and out comes the conversation.

If the driver isn't angry with someone, he wants to express his opinion on a number of subjects, all of which he insists he is an expert on.

This includes the Berlin problem, the moratorium on hydrogen bomb testing, the state of race relations, and what's wrong with the Colts . . , though not necessarily in that order.

At your destination, you get out the same way you got in . . on your own.

Actually, you get just about as good a type of service on a bus, and who ever heard of tipping a bus driver?

Those bus drivers do at least stop their vehicles at the curb, open the doors for embarking and debarking passengers, and do keep their mouths shut.

I GUESS, some of these remarks will probably make some drivers a little warm under the collar, but then you can't please everyone.

Like I said before, I've got nothing against cab drivers, but please fellows—how about a new deal for your long suffering passengers.

And to everyone — a Happy New Year.

That includes cab drivers.

What Our Readers Say

Light On India

Dear AFRO:

The recent military conquest of Goa under the leadership and guidance of the Indian government sheds some light on the existing regime in Lisbon, as well as New Delhi.

Only a small amount of research reveals that Oliveira Salazar heads an oligarchy which is greedy for wealth and privilege and which is supported by those elements of force which attach themselves to the most violent of dictatorships.

And it is no secret that he has applied the same methods of subjection to all Portuguese overseas provinces that he formerly imposed as the so-called "Salazarian Peace" at home.

The peace included, among other things, the worst forms of forced labor, administrative corruption and death the world ever has seen.

Angola in Africa is a typical example.

But what is most disgusting is the support given this ruthless regime by the governments of the great western democracies which claim to be the defenders of the rights of man and the dignity of the individual.

Indeed, the impassiveness with which the United Nations has viewed Salazar's formulas is, at best, incredible.

For one thing, however, Portuguese delegates in the UN are more representative of the existing government than they are of the people of that country.

They apparently give little or no thought to the growing misery of colonial peoples. So that if Nehru's action did not dovetail with his spirit of pacifism, it certainly turned the spotlight on a situation which is infinitely more threatening to the peace of the world.

JOHN W. NICHOLAS

Register And Vote

Dear AFRO:

Your news columns report 110,000 voters now on the books. That is not enough. Shouldn't the NAACP stage another Register and Vote campaign?

ERNEST TIDWELL

EDITOR'S NOTE: Yes.

Dear AFRO:

SALISBURY — Register and Vote campaigns in Baltimore are conducted by the NAACP and in St. Louis by the political parties. Which is better?

OSCAR WATSON

EDITOR'S NOTE: Both are good. Why not both in Salisbury?

Thanks, Mrs. Santa

Dear AFRO:

I am writing this letter thanking you and all for the basket you sent us. If it had not been for you, we would have had very little to eat.

When I talked to you Saturday on the phone, you said stay home. When I got the basket it was better than toys and I thank the Lord and asked him to bless you for the wonderful things you did for me and everyone else.

MRS. D. K.

Dear AFRO:

I'm writing you this letter and sending a card thanking you for the sweet basket you sent me.

I did not know what I was going to do for Christmas. But when I got the basket I got down on my knees and thanked God and you.

My little boy didn't have any toys or presents at all, but thank the Lord, we had food.

I think it was wonderful what you did for everybody. So God bless you.

MRS. M. M.

About Mrs. Welcome

Dear AFRO:

If Mrs. Verda Welcome carries out her intention to file for State Senate in the Fourth District, how many votes will she need in the Democratic primary?

ELTON STRONG

EDITOR'S NOTE: In the 1958 4th District Senatorial primary, the winning candidate, Alvin Jones, polled 4535 votes, his opponent, 3014. It may take 9000 votes to win the primary in 1962 either in the Senate or in the assembly.

More Fellowship

Dear AFRO:

Once again the Christian world is observing the birth of Our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. Once again the cry will go out for peace on earth, good will to all men.

Fellow readers like my family will exchange gifts, After Christmas, then what do we do?

I still will be in Saigon, Vietnam. My other service buddies will be off in some other distant place — Alaska, below the South Pole or on an ice cutter — and the peace that we are looking for still will be uncertain.

The American citizen of color still will be struggling for the freedom he so richly deserves.

• • •

BUT WHAT about our goodwill to our African brothers? The Irishman is not ashamed to recognize an Irishman; the same for the Italian and Jew and Germans; and I could go on.

We are inclined to neglect the Africans who are sent to the United States to study for various reasons. How many who can afford it will invite some of these people to your homes?

I can cite three cases, for examples, where the African have a very distorted picture of the American colored person that he meets in his day to day contact with them.

In Seattle there were three that I knew personally who had their first time to enter our home to have even a glass of ice water.

In Washington, D.C. at Trinity College there are two young girls whom I visited prior to my departure and they have their first time to know what we are like. All their contacts have been with white persons.

Cardinal Rugambwa said same time ago that he found some of us aloof, that we were inclined to look down on the African. Is this true?

• • •

I appeal to all of you. Let's enter the field of foreign policy. Let's be kind to our fellow black brothers, search him out like I do, learn more about him, then we will not have to ask embarrassing questions.

I am looking forward to the day I shall return to the United States and Baltimore. My prayers go with you all. Wishing all a holy holiday and a happy New Year.

S/SGT. JAMES THOMAS
(Home address, 1820 E. Chase St.)

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: "Our Readers Say," AFRO-AMERICAN, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore 1, Md.

Hodge-Podge

Two Times A Year Baltimore Shines

By ROBERT W. MATTHEWS

There are two times during the year when it is a distinct pleasure to drive through the streets of Baltimore.

One, is in late August when the AFRO Clean Blockers have done their bit to make our city a neater place to live.

The other is at Christmas time when holiday lights bloom during the evening hours.

• • •

CERTAIN SECTIONS of the city have build up a tradition of lighting customs. Neighborhood organizations have done an excellent job in promoting uniformity in decorations.

Newcomers to a block soon learn that they are expected to conform—and usually do. The results are indeed beautiful to behold.

The porch trees of the 1900 - 2000 block Bentalou St. are again in evidence this year. The lighted doorways of upper Lafayette Ave. are once more a showplace.

In the newer neighborhoods, the 3900 block Cedardale Rd. presents a brilliant geometric pattern in the night.

Perhaps the ultimate in Christmas decoration might be the home in the 3400 block Dochester Rd., which is not only lighted from top to bottom, but pipes Christmas music into the night air from hidden speakers.

WITH HOLIDAY traffic tolls still in the news, a report reaches us that a new road safety hazard has been found: It's hidden hunger.

Exhaustive tests with long-distance truck drivers prove that speed of reaction and ability to concentrate are both drastically affected by the system's craving for food.

The driver who is hungry — but doesn't know it — is apt to get headaches, eye-strain, bad temper and any number of assorted mucle pains due to body fatigue.

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 an editor good enough to see that their interests are preserved and their future secured;

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

Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and continuous injustice, race prejudice or corruption.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR., 1922

Noteworthy

Christmas Toys Can Be Enjoyed By Parents, Too

By HERBERT MANGRUM

Christmas toys are for children, but we parents really take over when junior is not around.

Maybe a psychiatrist could tell us why.

Take electric trains. I'll bet thousands of fathers had a ball Christmas morning playing Casey Jones. I did.

I was so carried away with playing the frustrated engineer that I almost forgot to eat Christmas dinner.

I just may buy a model railroad system for myself.

Of course junior and the rest would be barred from playing with that set.

• • •

TOYS WERE out of the world this Christmas.

I know of one boy who received a frightening green, red - eyed robot that moves forward and backwards, and turns around with an eerie sound.

The thing does everything but talk, sleep, and eat.

The fact that the hulking monster looks like the creature from the Black Lagoon apparently does not matter.

• • •

ONE OF THE MOST interesting mechanical toys on the market this Christmas was the pudgy doll-like creature called "The Bartender".

This hombre, which comes equipped with a highball glass and a bottle of booze, takes a nip, smacks his lips and turns red after the third drink.

• • •

"THE BARTENDER" reminds me of a friend who tipped the cup of good cheer too much and too often on Christmas eve.

Christmas morning, he called up to ask, "What channel does the Rose Bowl game come on?

When told that he was a week ahead of time old pal turned turtle and played Rip Van Winkle.

• • •

HERE'S HOPING that 1962 will bring:

Gallons of lotion for the one guy who did not for the first time receive a bottle of shaving lotion as a Christmas present.

A formula that will grow hair on the heads of all my pals, who are getting bald.

Good luck for an old friend who complains: "If it wasn't for bad luck I would have no luck at all."

A hot house for that exile from Florida so that he can grow his own orange tree.

And a decent box of cigars for that other guy who buys inpensive cigars one at a time.

Happy New Year.

$10,000 bail set in killing

RICHMOND

The holiday spirit was overcast with sorrow for the family, friends and pupils of Ervin Carlton Hockaday, 35, Dinwiddie County, Va., schoolteacher whose slaying is charged against a 21-year-old blond soldier.

The knife slaying occurred shortly before midnight on Monday, Dec. 18 near a small wooden church on U.S. Route 1, a few miles south of Petersburg.

The site is just across the highway from the handsome brick glass - closed - porch home which Mr. Hockaday shared with a foster sister, Miss Maud L. White.

• • •

HIS WIFE, Mrs. M. Estelle Hockaday, teaches school about 50 miles away in Surrey, Va.

The Dinwiddie County Courtroom was crowded with friends, neighbors and fellow teachers of the slain man, Friday, for the preliminary hearing for the soldier, Pvt.

The lone witness was State Trooper W. T. Holloway who said that he and his partner, Trooper C. E. Groth were riding down Route 1 when they saw Baldridge, in civilian clothes, in the middle of the highway.

• • •

"WE STOPPED, and he ran to the car. He had a bloody knife in one hand, and a black billfold in the other. He was talking incoherently, but he kept asking 'Won't somebody please help me?'

"He was almost hysterical, and we had to quiet him down."

The officer said Baldridge explained that when he became separated from his friends at the bus terminal in Petersburg, he met Hockaday who offered to drive him back to Fort Lee.

Pvt. Baldridge, in service only nine months, is stationed at Ft. Campbell, Ky., but since October, has been taking a parachute packing course at the Ft. Lee quartermaster school.

Robert E. Baldridge of Santa Anna, Cal.

CONTINUING Baldridge's story, Trooper Holloway said that instead of bearing east toward Ft. Lee, Mr. Hockaday drove south instead into Dinwiddie County and parked near the church.

They got into the fight, Baldridge was quoted as saying because the teacher made improper advances to him.

According to Trooper Holloway, Pvt. Baldridge first said that the switchblade knife belonged to Hockaday but later admitted its ownership. Sheriff A. Hill Burton was told that the teacher was stabbed 14 times.

TROOPER HOLLLOWAY testified "We found the man lying face down in a puddle of water and blood near the church. We sent the ambulance and had him taken to Petersburg Hospital.

"Then we took Pvt. Baldridge to Fort Lee where the medical officer checked him over."

Going on to the Petersburg Hospital, they learned that Mr. Hockaday had died.

SITTING QUIETLY in a neat blue suit during the 15-minute hearing, Pvt. Baldridge was not called to testify.

He is also charged with robbery because the wallet, containing a $10 bill and a silver dollar, was identified as the teacher's property.

Upon the recommendation of Commonwealth Attorney D. Carlton Mays, Judge B. Hunter Barrow set bail at $10,000, holding the soldier for grand jury action. It was agreed that he would be confined to the Army post.

• • •

BRIEF FUNERAL services for Mr. Hockaday were held next day at Mt. Level Baptist Church in Dinwiddie, with the pastor, the Rev. Royal J. Nickens officiating.

The scripture was read by the Rev. T. A. Lavy.

Interment in the Mt. Level Burial Park was under direction of the H. P. Johnson Funeral Home of McKinney, Va.

MR. HOCKADAY was a seventh-grade teacher at the Southside School on U. S. Route 1. The principal, Oscar W. Epps, and H. I. Tucker, principal of the school where Mrs. Hockaday teaches, wert among the pallbearers. Others were Charles Tanner, a fellow teacher; Robert Walker, William Jarrett and George L. Richie.

Honorary pallbearers were Mesdames Bertha Taylor, Neolus Ellis, Addie Henderson, Lacy Wooden, Edna Tucker, Henrietta Bland, Alease Fuller; and pupils, Misses Sylvia Mason, Cheryl Dabney and Theresa Ridley.

• • •

MR. HOCKADAY had been a teacher for seven years. He was a Virginia State College graduate, and a World War II veteran.

Active in youth work at Mt. Level Church, he also sang with the senior choir at the Olive Branch Baptist Church.

Besides his wife, his survived by his mother, Mrs. Minerva Hockaday of NYC; four sisters, Mesdames Bertina Watkins and Minerva Grant, both of NYC; Clara Harvell of Dinwiddie; and Mabel Jones of Baltimore.

• • •

ALSO FOUR brothers, Leslie and John of NYC; James Sidney of South Bend, Ind.; and William of Baltimore;

Also his foster sister, Miss Maud L. White, with whom he lived; a foster brother, Lee Johnson; and his father-in-law Judge Bailey of Surrey, Va.

SLAYING OF SCHOOLTEACHER Ervin C. Hockaday, 35, of Dinwiddie, Va. (near Petersburg) is charged against blond Pvt. Robert E. Baldridge shown here at the Dinwiddie County Courthouse. In insert is Sheriff A. Hill Burton who directed the investigation. Testimony was that Mr. Hockaday had offered the soldier a lift from Petersburg back to Fort Lee, Va. but drove instead to a church site near his home and made improper advances. The teacher suffered 14 stab wounds with a switchblade knife.

Dr. Lord not impressed by care for aging abroad

Reports of "marvelous work" to the contrary, Dr. Mason F. Lord, director of the chronic disease division of City Hospitals, finds care for the elderly programs in socialist and communist countryies no better than our own.

"In a nutshell," he reported to the State Commission on Aging after a six-week visit to Scotland, England, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Czechoslovakia and Russia, "they are in a horrible mess; as bad as our own and perhaps worse."

He objected principally to the centralization of facilities and their isolation.

The Danes, he said, plan to [illegible] most now has relatively few persons over 65 but no feeling that it is a mistake to isolat them from the remainder of the population.

• • •

DR. LORD said he was most impressed by the program in Norway where there are numerous small, decentralized facilities of the type Dr. Lord favors.

He said the trip reaffirmed his own convictions that it is important to get the elderly back into the community and with their families—as much as possible.

Taylor at Chaffee

Pvt. Lawrence E. Taylor, son of Mrs. Margaret Virginia Taylor, who lives at 2841 Rayner Ave., has been assigned to Company L, 397th Regiment, at Fort Chaffee, Ark., where he will receive is basic combat training.

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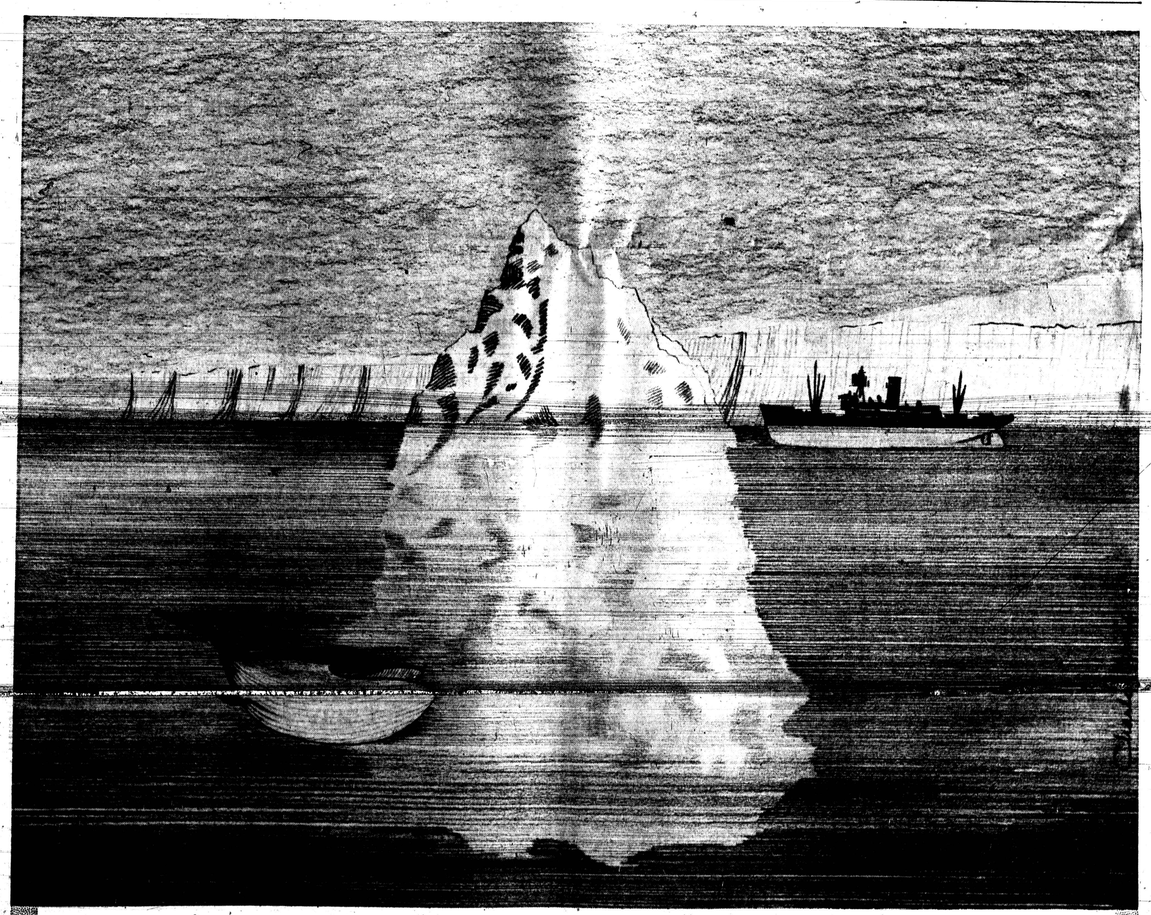

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