WHEN YOU FINISH READING YOUR AFRO PASS IT ALONG TO A FRIEND

The Education of Mrs. Bauernschmidt

By JOHN JASPER

Mrs. Marie O. Bauernschmidt, 20 years ago the leading woman in Baltimore, died last week at the age of 87.

She spent the last years of her life in a rest home. Many young people of this generation did not know her at all.

In 1942, Mrs. Bauernschmidt, whose name was so long that she was commonly referred to as "Mrs. B." or "Marie," made a public address in which she advocated:

(1) The appointment of a colored person on the school board.

(2) The naming of a colored assistant superintendent in charge of colored schools.

(3) The addition of uniformed colored policemen to the force.

(4) Giving colored people a "voice" in the management of their own institutions.

(5) A legal limit on overcrowding of tenement homes.

(6) Restraint upon the excessive number of liquor licenses in colored neighborhoods.

(7) An apology for her use of racial epithets and cuss words.

* * *

HOWEVER, "Mrs. B." made her entry in public life in 1919, and at that time opposed the entire program she advocated in 1942.

What happned?

In her own words:— "I felt I was justified, because I did not know enough about colored people to judge whether they were properly qualified."

So from 1919 to 1942, "Mrs. B." had to "know" the late Dr. Francis M. Wood long enough to understand that he should be an assistant superintendent of schools.

She had to discover that Dr. Dwight Holmes was as qualified as any other person for the school board.

And she had to see Mrs. Violet Hill Whyte to find out that she was a first rate applicant for the police force.

* * *

EPITHETS SHE had heard used since childhood were coupled with a "damn" or a "hell."

"When I am angry or provoked, I slip," she said. "Sometimes I swear. Both times I am sorry."

The point is not that it took 20 years to educate "Mrs. B.," but that she was educable.

Her public school training ended when she was in the eighth grade. She had to go to work when her parents were divorced, and her grandfather died.

But in her lifetime she did more for the public schools and for good government than any other person of her day.

* * *

THE STRAYER SURVEY turned the spotlight on our miserable second-hand schools, such as the Biddle Street and Druid Hill Avenue schools, for example, a hundred years old.

Riggs and Carrollton Aves. and Laurens and Calhoun Sts., Carey and School Sts. were the only new elementary schools built for colored children.

Douglass High at Baker and Carey Sts. was the first new high school built for our children.

The organization of parent - teacher associations, the elimination of political control of the schools by the bosses, and the public support of large loans for school buildings were the work of "Mrs. B."

* * *

THE ELECTION of William F. Broening and Theodore McKeldin as mayors of Baltimore, and Harry Nice as governor, was due in great measure to Mrs. Bauernschmidt.

It was a part of her strategy to use Republicans to defeat Democrats when the latter to be "too big for their britches."

To her the city councilmen met for the sole purpose of chewing tobacco and smoking cigars.

Often, she had to "hold her nose" while voting the Democratic ticket.

The police department needed "cleaning out from top to bottom," she would say.

* * *

HER THEORY was to "handle politicians with kid gloves and you have to have a rock in your mitt."

Mrs. MARIE O. BAUERNSCHMIDT

The stadium was a "white elephant."

Schools built out of a ten million dollar school loan were monuments to the colossal stupidity of city officials.

The liquor board, she said, should be controlled by men and women who live in Baltimore, and are in charge of the laws of the city.

Licenses in colored areas should be granted to colored owners only.

* * *

THE ONLY time we recall "Mrs. B." met her match was in her address to the Interdenominational Ministers' Alliance in March, 1942.

The Rev. Junius Gray presided and the Rev. Ward D. Yerby was secretary.

"Mrs. B." advised the pastors that rabble-rousing colored leaders were going too fast in urging social progress.

Colored people, she said, should accept injustices with calmness and a smile.

The reaction of the ministers was immediate.

"Mrs. B." left in the midst of their questions from the floor.

The meeting appointed a committee of three to formulate a reply to her address, and refused to accord her the usual vote of thanks.

* * *

THE EDUCATION of Mrs. Bauernschmidt was attended with difficulties.

She fell out with Governor Nice when he appointed Police Commissioner William Lawson who was pledged to the appointment of uniformed colored cops.

Later, she was instrumental in peaching Commissioner Lawson.

She importuned Lawson's successor Robert Stanton not to put colored men in uniform.

She was opposed to interracial meetings on the upper level at the YWCA.

"Concerning public school matters," she said, "I attend all the meetings of your people and all the white meetings, but some meetings we can not have you attend.

"I am broad on interracial meetings; but the people on the streets will be saying all sorts of things about us if we meet together."

* * *

AND MRS. BAUERNSCHMIDT could not break up the Public Athletic League maintained largely by private funds. It was in charge of playgrounds and recreation.

However, she influenced the mayor and council to put the direction of these activities in the hands of the public school authorities.

The old Public Athletic League is now the City Recreation Department.

"Mrs. B." lived to see integration of public schools by court order eight years ago, and even this year picketing of jim crow public places by students.

From her enforced retreat came no public comment.

We like to think that her education continued to the very last.

Certainly, the one time she succeeded in calling the AFRO from her rest home, she talked more sensibly than the politicians.

ANNAPOLIS DOINGS

By ELOISE RICHARDSON

"Love in bloom" permeated the atmosphere at John Wesley Methodist Church at Glen Burnie on Friday evening when the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Hilton Parker of Baltimore re-affirmed their vows after 38 years of marriage.

The beautiful wedding anniversary service was read by the Right Rev. Edgar A. Love, Bishop of the Washington Conference of the Methodist Church.

Miss Yvonne Fisher, soprano, and the Rev. Nathaniel Perry, basso, minister of the Cherry Hill Methodist Church, were the soloists.

Those who were in the wedding party who served as attendants were Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Douglas C. Bowman, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. William E. Brown, Mesdames Sustin Besnett, J. Lloyd Garrison and Miss Amelia Parker, and Reverends J. F. Ford, Sherman Mason, Wesley Kelly, C. A. Scott, Kenneth Barnes.

The impressive occasion, which was planned by the South Baltimore District of the conference in honor of its district superintendent and his wife, was culminated with a reception for the "new" Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Parker.

Toastmaster was the Rev. W. C. L. Scarborough and more than 300 guests enjoyed the meal which was prepared and served by the gracious hospitality committee of which Mrs. Lola Hines was chairman.

* * *

THE COMMITTEE on arrangements was headed by Mrs. C. A. Scott. Others who supported her were Mesdames Clarence Davis, Laura Edwards, Wesley Kelly, J. F. Ford, C. A. Greene, J. Lloyd Garrison, George White, Walter Sewell, D. C. Bowman, R. S. Abernethy, Sherman Mason, B. P. Jordan, James Johnson, Sustin Bennett, William E. Brown and J. H. Holt.

Among guests were Mrs. Georgianna Parker, the aunt of the Rev. Parker and her daughter, Mrs. Helen Storrs of Roselle, N.J., Rev. Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Fields, Rev. and Mr and Mrs Caleb Queen of Washington, Rev. C. S. Briggs, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. V. T. Key, Mr. and Mrs Theodore Kess, Mr and Mrs. Theodore Kess, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Keene;

Also Mr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Crowder, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Garrison, Rev. Kenneth, Rev. Mr and Mrs. J. B. A. Dyson, Mrs. Clara Young and Mr. and Mrs. William H. Richardson of Annapolis.

It was in September 1923 that the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Parker met in her hometown at Staunton, Va. They were introduced by the Rev. Raines Stennett, a former pastor of the Augustus Street Methodist Church.

Because it was "love at first sight," the couple were united in Holy Matrimony the following February and it has been "love" ever since. The Rev. Parker says that his wife has been a great asset to him in the home as well as in his work. It might be well to say here that Mrs. Parker sings and has a very beautiful voice.

They are the parents of two lovely daughters, Mrs. Frances P. Graham of Richmond, Va. and Miss Amelia D. Parker, a high school senior. There are also two grandchildren, Valerie D. Graham, 5 years old, and Karen F. Graham, 4.

* * *

THIS COLUMN is pleased to announce the formation of a new organization in the city to be known as the Community Nurses Associatton of Annapolis.

The group has as its purpose to serve in the interest of the comforts of patients at the Anne Arundel General Hospital, - that is to contribute and subsidize such needs as furniture and other equipment.

Future plans also include study for renovation and the first area in the hospital to be considered will be the Front Hall section. The system of realizing such aims will be done through donations and projects.

A current project is the Easter Drawing. The public is urged to support this project. The group is grateful to Dr. Theodore H. Johnson and Roland Day for their contributions.

The executive board of the newly organized group consists of Mrs. Helen Gilmer, president; Mrs. Aurelia Lawson, vice-president; Mrs. Lillian Johnson, secretary; Mrs. Evelyn Parker, treasurer, and Mrs. Odessa Thomas, chaplain.

A SONG FEST will be presented at the Town Neck Methodist Church on Sunday at 5 p.m. Mrs. Rachel Cook is the chairman. Proceeds will benefit Women's Day The Rev. S. T. Collins is the pastor.

In the announcement which ran in last week's column of the marriage of Miss Laura B. Plummer and Donald Burns, through typographical error, the mother of Mr. Burns was left out of the story. Mr. Burns is the son of Mrs. Hattie Johns Sorrell, with whom the couple lives at her residence, 1820 Poplar St. We apologize.

The annual banquet of the local preachers, lay speakers will be held at the St. Johns Methodist Church, April 13.

The MYF of the Metropolitan Methodist Church held a fellowship hour last Sunday.

Those participating were: Miss Shirley Sewell, Miss Christine Richardson, Welcome Muriel Smith, Miss Leona Tuxon, Mrs. Juanita Boyd, Edgar Sewell, Gilbert Freeland, Mrs. Odessa Flemming and the Rev. J. E. Adams.

This week's sick list includes Mrs. Anna Matthews, Pasadena, Md. and Grant Gaither of Severn at Provident Hospital.

GLEN BURNIE ECHOES

Miss Joyce Johnson marries Dennis White

Miss Joyce G. Johnson, Gallaway, Patapsco Park, was married recently to Dennis White at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Edwards, 5746 Bellgrove Rd.

Bridesmaid was Mrs. Vashti Hunt. Rufus Hall was organist. The Rev. Julius Ford officiated. Miss Johnson is a member of St. Johns Md. Methodist Church and grand daughter of Mrs. Bertha Clark of Severn.

More than a hundred persons attended the reception.

* * *

THE TRAVELERS of Annapolis will be featured April 1, at St. Johns Methodist Church, Patapsco, Md.

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SAVED BY CANVAS—Robert Spies and Ronald Greene prepare to run test. If the canvas had been pulled down another foot, the picture would have been classified.

Secret Radar Test Duty Challenge To Area Team

High above the rolling hills of Baltimore and Carroll counties in the vicinity of the Liberty Dam, is a team of engineers and technicians engaged in a project so secretive that getting them to admit the time of day could be scored as a major breakthrough.

Their mission?

Testing radar antennae for the Air Force.

Making sure that the half-moon, 130-foot structures of steel and aluminum are in perfect order is a burden which rests on the shoulders of these men of the Westinghouse Corporation, Air Arms Division.

"Making sure that the radar antennae are performing electronically and mechanically according to specifications, before they are put into service," is all that's quotable on what they do.

One member of the unusual team is Ronald Greene, a little unusual himself.

* * *

RONALD, technician with a grade 7th ranking — William Schroeder, public relations official, said he got his latest upgrading this week — is an electronics specialist.

As such he is working shoulder to shoulder with electronics engineers.

The story of how Mr. Greene became a radar tester is as unusual as the work he does.

"It was all a mistake," said the native Baltimorean.

He has no formal training in en-

(Continued on Page 18)

ALL SYSTEMS 'GO'—Technician Greene, reflects satisfaction at readings on the Antenna Pattern Recording Console, as he relays them to engineer in companion radar tower a mile away.

New Army Song

Fort Meade's 19th Engineer Battalion has a theme song.

First Lt. Walter A. Gill of Company A, with an assist from songwriter Irving Berlin, penned the lyrics to the song which has been recorded by the Second U.S. Army Band.

Set to the melody, "This is the Army, Mr. Jones," the recorded version will be presented to Lt. Col. Elmer M. Rega, battalion commander, at an officer's party Saturday night in the golf course clubhouse.

Lt. Gill, son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Gill of 4228 Evans Chapel Road, Baltimore, produced four choruses of original lyrics at the request of Colonel Rega and Capt. Ray M. Carson, Company A commander, for use at battalion reviews, parades, and change-of-command ceremonies.

* * *

A 1955 graduate of Baltimore City College, Lt. Gill, 24, also graduated from Morgan State College as an arts major in 1960. After airborne school at Fort Benning, Ga., he joined the 19th as a platoon leader.

His father is a history and political science instructor at Morgan State while his mother, Ruby, teaches music in the Baltimore school system.

"I get my musical background from her. About the only thing I got from my father is how to be a gentleman," the lieutenant laughs.

He did aid his father compile a history of Omega Psi Phi fraternity, an organization to which the lieutenant belonged in college and of which his father is grand historian.

Though "he wanted me real bad," Lt. Gill never braved a semester in any course taught by his father. "He would've worked me to death," he claims.

AS AN ARTS major, he dabbled in several art forms but prefers modern painting and sculpture. After almost two years in the Army, he has decided to make the military his career.

M/Sgt. Weldon Corbitt Jr. of the Second Army Band produced the arrangement for the theme and conducted the band and chorus during the recording session.

LT. WALTER GILL plays record of the theme song he wrote for his outfit.

Aims High -- Works Hard

By GEORGE W. COLLINS

This week's spotlight on young people going places and doing things again swings to the distaff side and brings into view a pert, talented and youthful lass destined for a high place in the arena of achievement.

Meet Miss Delores Bobian — a 15-year-old high schooler — young woman on the move — UP.

You first met Delores last year as one-fourth of the "Bobian Four," a brother and sister a cappella quartet that has sung its way into the hearts of music lovers at home and away.

Taken out of the quartet — made up of Calvin, 19; James, 18, and Shirley, 14 — Delores is still a young miss who can more than hold her own.

Not only is she a vocalist within her own right but a musician of several dimensions — including mastery of the piano, ukulele, flute and now "fooling around with the organ."

* * *

DAUGHTER OF the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. King S. Bobian, Delores can also offer these credits to support the contention that she falls in the category of the not-so-ordinary:

She is an honor student at Dundalk Senior High School, a fact which wasn't easy to extract through her sincere modesty.

"I usually make all 'A's,' but none of my marks are below 'B,' she admitted.

Other areas where the Dundalk 10th grader shines brightly are the Girl Scouts, student activities and church youth programs.

Delores, along with 47 other Girl Scouts, will represent the Baltimore Area Council when the worldwide round-up of scouts convenes in Bulton Park in Vermont, July 20-29.

* * *

UNTIL LAST year, the versatile young miss was senior member-at-large of the Baltimore County Regional Association of Student Councils, a county - wide organization.

She has been asked to serve as music counselor at the Maryland State Leadership Conference and workshop which meets at Frostburg State Teachers College, Aug. 20-26.

She and her brothers and sister will sing in "County Capers," sponsored by the student county - wide organization on April 7.

The charming and busy young woman on the move is chairman of the service committee on the planning board of Girl Scouts. She is a member of Troop 1067, sponsored by the Sollers Point High School Parent-Teacher Association and winner of the Daughters of The American Revolution Citizenship Award.

* * *

DURING SUMMER school vacation, according to Miss Bobian's schedule, her slogan could well be:

"Have bag, will travel!"

As soon as she returns from the 50th anniversary celebration of Girl Scouts in Vermont, where an encampment of 10,000 girls and adults will attend, Delores will head for Livingstone College in Salisbury, N.C., where she will serve as youth delegate to the General Conference of the AME Zion Church, Aug. 5-10.

In her home church, Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church, the student on the go has made her mark as a youth leader.

DELORES BOBIAN AT THE KEYBOARD

She is a member of the Youth Council, one of the church's Sunday school pianists, and recently ended a year's reign as "Youth of the Year" at the family's place of worship. Her father is associate pastor.

And who is the current "Youth of the Year" at the church, pastored by the Rev. Clinton R. Coleman?—Shirley, the 14-year-old sister of Delores.

* * *

THE YOUNG miss, who chuckled when told she was as busy as a one-arm sailor in a leaky boat, said she has no particular hobbies, explaining that her love of music tends to make her hobby a busman's holiday.

"I enjoy music and when there's time, I do a 'little' singing, play the piano, ukulele and flute. I can hardly wait to visit my cousin in Washington, so I can fool around with her organ."

Ping pong and swimming are other sports striking the fancy of Miss Bobian — "when there's time."

Asked how good is her ping pong game, she edged, but reluctantly admitted she could beat her brother when "I put my mind to it."

Her brother(s) could not be reached for rebuttal.

* * *

DESPITE HER tender years, Delores, who admitted she is still battling with herself to determine what profession she will choose, has decided on a credo which will guide her upward trek:

"I always say you should set your goals high and work hard to reach them," she said.

Delores credits the Girl Scouts and her mother, Mrs. Alice M. Bobian, homemaker and substitute teacher, with encouraging her to become active in youth activities.

"I find it easy to move into other things after getting started. The Scouts and my mother got me started."

And how does the model teenager feel about rock and roll music?

"I don't like it. We (The Bobian Four) sing anything we can harmonize on, but no rock and roll."

A timely message from a young woman on the move—UP!

YOUNG MISS ON THE MOVE—Miss Bobian, alert Scouts, will join in the Girl Scouts' 50th birthday celebration in July.