"I am a man of peace; God knows how I love peace. But I hope I shall never be such a coward as to mistake oppression for peace."
—Hungarian Freedom Fighter Kossuth

Prayer of the Week

Almighty God who has given us the sun as a light by day and the moon by night, grant us that inner light of wisdom to see clearly our goals of this day. Amen.

Time To Be Heard

Baltimore is on the verge of a historic breakthrough in the area of civil rights.

It would really be something to see Baltimore quoted all over the country as a leader in civil rights legislation field. It would mean much to the city, much more than some opponents of the measure seem to realize.

No where in any southern city is there legislation that parallels that put before the Democratic City Council by Republican Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin.

Here is a wonderful opportunity for bipartisanship to culminate in something that will usher Baltimore into a new era.

We realize that the politicians will be thinking that this is an election year. To assume otherwise would be naive.

At this point the party represented by the mayor and that represented by the 20 members of the City Council, are being praised for the progress of the omnibus rights package. Unless there are some very severe change is the measure, both parties will be remembered for their roles.

Comments and reactions we have had since Monday's approval of a strong bill indicate there are many more Baltimoreans in favor of the package than against it.

As many as possible of these persons should let their councilmen know where they stand. Too often a few voices in the opposition camp carry the day merely by making themselves heard. Call or send a wire today.

The Insurance Issue

The question of excessive carrying charges for automobile charges is one that has rightfully claimed interest in Annapolis, where the General Assembly is now in season.

In the Senate there has been introduced a bill that would set the allowable rate of interest charged for installment purchase of such insurance at ten per cent.

This is far less than the more than 100 per cent charges that some people have been forced to pay for the privilege of handling their insurance premiums on a deferred basis.

There is no law that controls these fees, so that a few people have been able to charge almost anything they want, and the victims are usually those least able to afford such unreasonable costs.

The situation also poses a problem for those who obtain their policies through normal channels. Many of the drivers who pay outlandish fees find themselves unable to continue the payments and so they drop the insurance.

Should they later be involved in an accident with a motorist who does have coverage, the latter might find it difficult to collect damages.

The bill in the Senate is a good one and we hope the Assembly will act favorably on it.

New Challenge To Voters

We are not ready to say that the voter rolls of Baltimore City are about to be purged by the Supervisors of Elections. The agency has shown a willingness to support in every way possible the current campaign to get more citizens registered to vote.

However, when there are reports from quite stable citizens that they have received notices from the Board indicating they have "moved and will be stricken from the rolls if they fail to re-register," there is cause for pause.

In reporting that a number of Northwestern Baltimore voters have received such notices though they have not moved, Edward J. Van de Castle, chairman of the Catholic Council, said he himself had got one.

We do take one position in this matter. It is that it appears that some of the persons involved in taking the canvass were not as thorough as they might have been in dermining whether a voter still lived at the address listed for him on the books.

The Supervisors of Elections have an obligation to see that no voter is deprived of his voting rights through shortcomings of the board.

At the same time it becomes critically important that every person who has a card from the Board, return it at once with the proper information.

As a last and most important effort, every voter who received a card or any other information casting doubts as to his registration status, can and should settle the matter once and for all by voting in the upcomng Primary election