Dear Senator

Every once in awhile we hear of workmen killed or injured while digging a trench on a construction site.

In most cases these are non-union workmen. Cave-ins occur most frequently after a rain.

Usually at fault are the contractors who seek to save money for materials necessary to shore up all sides of an excavated spot.

Every worker in his right mind should refuse to enter or participate in digging a trench when the depth is past his shoulders.

Meantime, contractors who endange the lives of workers should pay a higher penalty.

We have seen contractors direct workers into trenches 18 feet deep without any support on either side of the trench, and these contractors had already charged their customer for lumber necessary to safeguard the lives of their workers.

Industrial safety codes need strengthening. Senator Welcome, Delegate Michel and Delegate Dixon, and there should be stricter inspection and enforcement.

When the legislature convenes next month, how about laws to protect these workers?

What Integration Does

Douglass and Dunbar High Schools both won the basketball championships in their divisions the first year high school athletics were integrated.

Each of these has won several division titles since, and Dunbar has taken the city crown four times, the last time in 1963. Carver, likewise, has annexed her share of division titles during the period.

At the same time, colored young sters have participated on championship teams at Edmondson, Poly and City in football, baseball and track, proving that talented athletes have been distributed among all the high schools.

Integration has brought about the situation where any boy of ability is permitted to match his skills against others on a city-wide basis. And that is good. Good for Douglass, Dunbar, Carver — and Baltimore.

Florida Law Invalid

Florida had a state law forbidding unmarried colored and white couples from living together.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled the law invalid Monday.

Now a racially mixed couple can "habitually live and occupy in the night time the same room".

Mr. Justice White, who wrote the opinion, said the Florida statute violated the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment.

The court did not get down to the question of whether Florida, Maryland and 12 other states can forbid interrmarriage of the races.

It almost did.

Once it has declared no state can interfere with common - law marriages, it has given a broad hint that no state will be permitted to interfere with legal interracial marriages.

Million In Walk Around Money

Young Bobby Kennedy, the late President's brother and one-time attorney general, is now U.S. Senator from New York.

Financial reports filed this month showed that his campaign expenses totaled $1,236,000.

It took this much "mazuma" to defeat his Republican opponent Senator Keating.

Keating had $96,000 and spent it all. He was outmatched by Bobby 10 to 1.

Even though this was a Democratic landslide year, Kennedy spent plenty. We mention it here because we have heard it said in this city that candidates can be elected without paying precinct workers "walk around" money to get out the vote.

I Have A Dream

Shortly after Dr. Martin Luther King made his memorable "I have a dream" speech before the Lincoln Memorial before 200,000 who marched on Washington, he went to the White House for a conference.

President Kennedy, a tremendously eloquent speaker himself, held out a warm hand to Dr. King saying, "I too, have a dream."

Dr. King dreamed of time when all men shall live together in peace.

If he dreamed of winning the Nobel Peace Prize before it was presented to him Thursday, we shall all need to be careful of what we wish for. Those wishes have a way of coming true.

South Africa And Ala. Bar Louie

South Africa and the University of Alabama have said no to a proposal to have Louis Armstrong toot his trumpet for them.

Louis is not complaining. He has plenty of work. He said he is sorry those cats will not hear him.

Alabama students protest. They want his trumpet at their annual cotillion. They claim the University authorities are discriminating on account of Armstrong's race.

The authorities say it isn't that but won't say what.

Why don't they be frank and tell the truth?

Their objection is that Louis plays too loudly, and secondly, they do not understand his beat.

Only In America

Pill Slaves Have Restless Moments

By HARRY GOLDEN

Sitting on the terrace is usually my lovely wife and my hubby, my husband, my friend, me. We are sipping orange juice because it is not yet noon.

She says to me, "Why don't you take a pill, dear, against the cholesterol, or something?"

"What do you mean, take a pill?" he bellows, causing not whether I be bellows, causing not whether I be witness their disagreement.

"I mean a pill," she says, "that will make you get up and D.O. something."

"Now I wouldn't want anyone to think she doesn't love him. After all, she gave him the orange juice, freshly squeezed orange juice at that. It's just that she thinks of him as Vince Lombardi thinks of his Green Bay Packers: an infinitely complex mechanism needing occasional adjustment.

Perhaps unreasonably, he dislikes being thought of as a mechanism which a pill can tune up or down depending upon her whims or the weather. To make a mildly unpleasant story short, he pulled back his pill nor watered the rhododendrons.

Instead he put a big jigger of gin in the orange juice and complained in ranting tones he had spent the night whirling like a dervish with

[illegible]

today, he said, there are so many things we never dreamed of. How true!

This writer liked his suggestion that things will change whether we like it or not, and that those people who want the world to go on as it is are called conservative, but he suggested a better term to describe them is timid.

Do people like good music? Indeed they do! There as standing room only at Douglass High School on Saturday afternoon.

All but a handful of the 1335 seats were filled and many stood to hear the presentation of Handel's "Messiah," by the school's music department.

The 150 Douglass singers were joined by local artists who gave a very creditable performance of this favorite Christmas - time music.

It was amazing how attentive the audience was, considering that many of them were students and young relatives of the performers.

Orchids due the music department, Mrs. Marion T. Smith, Mrs. Lois Pickens, Mrs. Claire F. Kemall, Mrs. Lois Wright, William L. Grigsby and Anthony Snowden.

Guest conductor was William Milner, school music supervisor; Glenn Bunch Eastern High teacher was pianist. Miss Pickens was at the organ. Miss Myrtle Mack, Peabody grad; Allen Wittel, school band director; and Daniel Ridout, Delaware music teacher were the soloists.

by RALPH MATTHEWS, JR.

Charlie Mingus, who usually looks like a fat Genghis Khan in search of a haircut, was 40 pounds less heavy and 50 pounds angrier that recent cold night I stumbled into Manhattan's Birdland jazz club.

He and another relentless jazz experimenter, John Coltrane, were performing with their respective units. A very comedian, Flip Wilson, was the middle of the bill.

Though out - gunned by these protagonists of music, comedian Wilson just might be making as significant a contribution to our culture. The monologist is focusing on the underground theme of drug addiction with the same clean and humorous insights Dick Gregory and Godfrey Cambridge have of racial problems.

Of Wilson, more later.

JOHN COLTRANE smokes a pipe now, giving him the aspect of a young history professor who recently led into Birdland when Yesterday's University was his easy destination.

But no matter how serenely he puffed his briar, once with saxophone to mouth, he was all musical fury. Coltrane with the fantastic drumming of Elvin Jones to guide him, has gone back to Africa.

I have avoided hearing John lately because he seemed so silent on avant-gardism, he has sounded unscrambled. But this night his music hung together and it seemed evident that he and Jones have paid close attention to the intricacies of African tribal music.

With a wood flute instead of a saxophone, Coltrane would have sounded straight out of the rain forest.

My faith in him was restored. For a few seasons he seemed approaching the European rather than going back home to Hamlet, N.C. and black points beyond.

MINGUS, AS ever, was crazy as a fox. It was one of those nights, or mornings, my long observation of this musical virtuoso told me, when Charlie might do something kind of tender.

For one thing all the people at the bar were talking and not listening. The band's first number was sort of flat and Mingus, a perfectionist, was already glaring out at the audience like that menacing way of his.

I sat back waiting for anything to happen. After all it hasn't been so many months ago that trombonist Jimmy Knepper filed suit for damages against his former leader.

This was because Charlie, according to Knepper, knocked out a couple of teeth. Whether this was supposed to be while Knepper was blowing his trombone or not I do not recall.

My own limited experience with the bassist leads me to believe it just as likely that Mingus might have said "Jimmy you got a couple of bad teeth there so sue me."

The trouble with legends, as Mingus definitely is, is that truth is in the eye of the beholder.

BUT CHARLES was comparatively calm. He simply ordered his 16 - piece band off the stand and laid his bass down and went out to sit at a table in the club.

Before leaving, he announced to the audience that Danny Richmond, the drummer, would play a solo.

With a muttered curse, Richmond did just this. This tactic is what I have come to call Mingus' punishment of listeners who don't listen.

Not even the loudest mouth at the Birdland bar can out - talk tom toms. When Richmond was done it was noticeably quieter.

Mingus then, imperious as an emperor, from his table out among the customers ordered his piano player to the stand. This chap, whose name I did not get, gave a brief musical history of jazz piano.

Mingus and Mingus carried on a fascinating dialogue all the while on the general subject of how much music white folks had stolen from us.

This interesting lecture ended with the pianist playing a jaunty Harlem tent party tune composed by the great James P. Johnson.

OF FLIP Wilson, I can say that it seems his purpose as a comedian is to show us, through humor, the terrible and desolate world of the American narcotic addict.

Flip Wilson acts and sounds more like a junkie than any junkie I have ever known, and I've known many.

That he can accurately reproduce the sound of this aspect of ghetto life and find its humor is something we can examine next edition.

Sunshine to Willie T. Hicks, 1651 E. Eager St. He had surgery at Ft. Howard Hospital.

Many know Mr. Hicks as the husband of Mrs. Novella Hicks, Christ Methodist Church member, and as a World War 2 vet and retired Bethlehem Steel worker.

Prayers for Mrs. Robert L. Jackson (Clara), wife of the physician, who entered Provident Hospital on Friday evening.

Mrs. Jackson has been ill for the past four years, and confined first in the hospital and more recently at the West Lanvale St. home of her daughter, Mrs. Evelyn Barksdale.

Convention notes: Dr. Saul M. Perdue, Carver High principal is attending the 58th annual American Vocational Association meeting in Minneapolis.

William W. Proctor, registrar, Morgan State College was among the 525 representatives from some 280 colleges and universities at the annual convention of the Middle States Association of Collegiate Registrars and Officers of Admission in Atlantic City, last week.

Cliff note: St. James Episcopal Church services can be heard live on Radio Station WEBB on Sunday mornings.

This past Sunday's speaker was the Rev. Dr. J. V. L. Casserley of the Seabury Western Seminary, N.Y., who spoke about change.

Labor-Business

$125,000 Grant

By STERLING A. PAIGE

pave the way for larger enterprises, provide a field for groundwork in business management and generally bolster the economy of the community.

Recognition of this importance is evidenced in the many government-sponsored programs aimed at assisting our small businesses in financial and other ways.

A federal grant of $125,000 has been made to Howard University to make a study of small businesses in Baltimore, Washington and Richmond.

The study will include a survey and census of businesses that are colored owned, including interracial business in which colored ownership comprises at least 51 per cent of the total.

The Small Business Guidance and Development Center has already been set up on the Howard campus under the directorship of Dr. Wilford L. White, former director, Office of Business Advisory Services, U.S. Small Business Administration.

The Center will also employ an assistant director, a research librarian, two full-time field service counselors and a two-person office staff.

A clinic is to be set up on the Howard campus to offer counseling services.

The grant was made through the Area Redevelopment Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

THE LOCAL part of the program will be administered from Morgan State College through Dr. W. O. Bryson, of Morgan's department of economics and business.

Ten students have already started on the survey here and completion is expected by late spring.

At the end of the survey, all businesses contacted will be listed in a published Directory of Negro Business for the area involved.

The directory is due by early summer. Be sure your business is listed.

If you should be missed by the census-takers, you may call Dr. Bryson at Advance Federal Savings and Loan. Forms will be available at the Advance office and a call will have one forwarded to you.

IN ADDITION to publication of the directory, the project will seek to advise and assist deserving and promising small business enterprises.

Ultimate goals are: Expansion of employment through small business operation. Better employment for operators and employees. New job opening through expansion.

Experiences gained through information gathered during the survey will be shared with the small business community through conferences, engagement seminars and published materials.

All answers given during the survey will be considered confidential information.

Clinics and counseling services will be available in the Baltimore area for the benefit of small business operators.

I heartily urge all community businessmen to get in on this survey and take advantage of all it helps coming out of it. The government is taking an interest in you—be sure to be interested in yourself.

If it is the hope of the followers you give to this study that further assistance will be determined.

A GROUP of sincere and energetic young men, known as the Pyramids Inc., have completed plans for their Annual New Year's Cabaret.

Affair will be held at the Coliseum, Thursday, Dec. 31. The Pyramids are regular contributors to the NAACP, the Urban League and numerous other civic causes.

This group of civic-minded young men deserves your consideration and gives you a real entertaining evening.

Height of the week's [illegible] is an open mind that [illegible]

"Know the truth and it will set you free." is as true today as it ever was.

MRS. IDA B. DAVENPORT

Tips To Employees

Dear AFRO:

Now it can be told. Every employee is a potential employer. So when you work for a man, work with all your might.

Give him all you've got. Move in the same direction in which he is going. Work with him. Honor him, respect him, show gratitude.

Speak well of him and the firm he represents. Defend him against unfair competition. Whatever you say, think or do is a reflection on the integrity of the firm and you.

Make good. Allow no one, inside or out destroy the principles upon which the institution was founded. This is the kind of stuff successful men are made of. Keep it intact.

Remember work is only a state of mind. You don't live diet of hard work with the proper mental attitude. The difference between work and play is how you think. Both are energy making.

A good game of football is hard work. The joy of winning is a pleasant state of mind. The objective is alluring.

Have an objective in life. Meet it with the same force and determination. You will discover that work and play are synonymous.

Long hours will fade in oblivion. Time will forever be in the present tense.

Forget the past except for reflection. Live in the present — the future will move towards you. If you should become an employer, you will also become a better judge of men.

AUBREY J. CARPENTER

POET'S NOOK

TO A SPECIAL FRIEND

When first I met you, how little I knew
What reaches of life would enter with you.
Now, after a season, I've come to take thought
And am reading the runes that your coming has wrought.
Broad, sweeping terraces, long, lines of sea,
High candled heavens where clouds used to be.
For me you have opened a magical door
One that I knew not was fastened before.

GEORGIA DOUGLAS JOHNSON

THE BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN

Founded in 1892 by
JOHN H. MURPHY, SR. (1840-1922)
Published Every Tuesday and Friday in the Year by THE AFRO-AMERICAN COMPANY of Baltimore, Maryland.

Dr. Carl Murphy, Chairman of the Board
John H. Murphy, III, President
Elizabeth M. Moss, Vice Pres.-Treas.
Cliff W. MacKay, Editor
Mae E. Dyson, Secretary
James D. Williams, Managing Editor

Moses J. Newson, Asst. Managing Editor
Office: 628 N. Eutaw St. — MU. 5-0018

AFRO Credo

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God and in the principle of generation. It must always and shall—

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 minimized.

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

Whether it says and publishes except to expose corruption and condition injustices, regardless of consequences.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR., 1929