"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

Show us, O Lord, Thy mercy. And grant us Thy salvation. O Lord, hear my prayer. And let my cry come unto Thee. The Lord be with you, And with thy spirit. Amen.

Fire Deaths And The Poor

Another problem of the poor was tragically spotlighted here this week when four lives were snuffed out in two separate fires.

Monday's victim was an elderly resident of a guest home. On Tuesday morning the victims were three young children who had been living on welfare funds.

In neither of these cases was neglect found to be part of the tragedies.

It is that all the circumstances of being poor — the most modest surroundings, most often a low literacy level, the least consideration from public officials and on and on — are usually involved in these tragedies.

Every winter there are more horrible stories of mass fire deaths and by and large, poor people are in the majority by far.

It is heartbreaking to learn that three lives have been snuffed out because another child was playing with matches.

The same is true of cases where there have been code violations or where cold people have resorted to illegal heating metrods in an effort to warm themselves.

This great loss not only occurs where deaths are involved. Check at any house where you see there has been a fire with great loss of belongings and 9 times out of 10 the victims will turn out to be poor people.

As long as this is true — and we have no pat answers to the problem — there can be no question that considerably more attention should be devoted to drastically cutting down the toll.

LBJ All The Way

President Johnson came to the people Wednesday night in a fireside chat.

Actually he was speaking from a banquet at the Waldorf Astoria.

But he was also answering critics and especially senators who have condemned his management of the war in Vietnam.

We elected neither Senator Fulbright of Arkansas nor Senator Morse of Oregon as commander in chief of the Armed Forces and President of the United States.

But in no other real or undeclared war have we had from senators such a brazen attempt to control the President or give our enemies the idea our country is divided.

Morse and Fulbright are honorable men.

What do they want?

Do they want President Johnson to go slow on civil rights in exchange for their support of his foreign policy?

Is there another kind of trade?

We have felt they wanted something and for that reason the President was slow to answer back.

LBJ let his enemies have it right between the eyes Wednesday.

We have had enough of Fulbright, Morse and other dissidents.

The President has brought the question of war and peace in Vietnam to the people.

The first results show the people want LBJ. Now let's have a vote in Congress to see where it stands on the President's policies.

Labor Grows Impatient

The AFL - CIO unions had the President's pledge to work for repeal of the right to work laws in 19 states.

The bill, known as 14b permits workers to stay out of unions if they do not wish to join.

Unions have seen us seek the right to vote in southern states year after year, or they have seen us jimcrowed in travel, shut out of public schools and hotels.

We have been told to be patient.

It is intolerable for any citizen to have to wait to get his constitutional rights.

Labor's 14b is constitutional but labor wants it repealed now or else—else labor will form a third party.

The Democratic Party split in 1860 and the Republican Lincoln was elected.

The Republican Party split in 1912 and the Democrat Woodrow Wilson was elected.

Labor must continue the fight to achieve its goals. Meantime, it must find ways to control its radicals.

While Congress was considering the repeal of 14b, labor lost many friends by scheduling a transportation strike in New York that tied up the whole city for nearly a week.

The possibility of strikes among school teachers, policemen and firemen by nationwide labor unions has given shivers to many people.

The public needs evidence that labor is responsible and men like the late Mike Quill are not going to run this country.

Who Cannot Join A Union?

A liberal Catholic priest suggests a union for 38,000 priests.

Priests do not earn a salary, only food, clothes, lodging, personal and travel expenses.

Would they negotiate for higher pay, reduction of masses to three a day, shorter hours, more heat in rectories, a 5-day week, no clerical collars and vests on days off?

Until recent years it never occurred to us that a priest or a teacher, a fireman or a policeman needed union protection.

The policemen seemed to be happy hossing the neighborhoods, warning the kids and taking a free apple and banana from pushcarts or market stalls.

The fireman had considerable off time while on duty and could play cards or checkers between alarms.

School teachers had the highest pay, seldom got fired for anything, only worked 9 months of the year, got off every day around 4 p.m. and retired on good pensions.

Priests, as some of us mistakenly saw it, had one busy day a week — Sunday. The other days they were "off" except for visiting church members.

They did come to your house if older people were sick. They visited hospitals too.

All of these people — police, firemen, teachers and now priests, who seemed to us the most favored and the most satisfied — are making a noise demanding changes in hours, pay and working conditions.

Only fathers seem safe. Dad has to bring his money home. If he doesn't support his family he can be jailed. There are no unions for fathers.

And as to mothers, there can be no hour day either before or after the baby comes.

Doctors and physicians seem pretty well organized into medical associations.

From all of this we conclude that only fathers and mothers must carry on under non - union rules.

They will never be able to picket children or strike against infants demanding 24-hour service.

What's The Most Signal Honor?

Judge Perry P. Jackson of Cleveland celebrated his 70th birthday Jan. 27.

He was appointed to the Cleveland Municipal Court in 1942—the first colored man to serve as a judge in Ohio.

To be quite honest, the idea of the first colored man was more amusing than assuring. No one ever heard of the first Italian or the first Jew to hold an office. Only the colored man," one observer has noted.

In the church, Judge Jackson heads the judicial committee, the supreme court of the AME Church. He is a high official of the Elks who came to Cleveland from Zanesville carrying a cardboard suitcase with a meager supply of clothes and a few celluloid collars.

He has been elected three times to the Municipal Court and will run again in November.

Looking around his office, reporters discover in his desk an ever present Phi Beta Kappa key and a framed diploma showing he was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Western Reserve University in 1961.

Asked what he thought his most signal honor, Judge Jackson said, "I believe an honorary degree given by one's college is the finest award a man can receive in his lifetime. That is how I feel about mine."

Gout For The Brainy

University of Michigan medical researchers reviewed recently the well-known fact that gout is caused by an excess of uric acid in the blood.

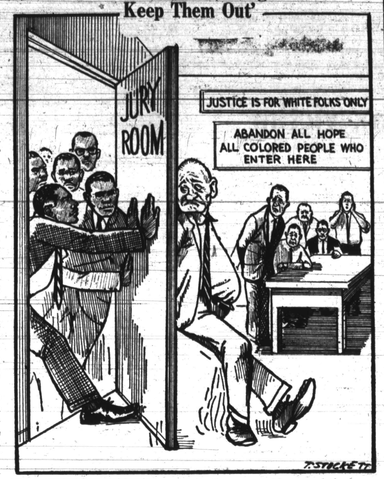
They noted that famous men like Franklin Roosevelt, Alexander The Great, Isaac Newton and Oliver Cromwell had gout. Then they concluded that uric acid, like caffeine, is a stimulant that leads humans to outstanding performance.

The next step is to determine how injections of uric acid in the bloodstream can help retarded children and help memory and learning in normal or aged persons.

The final question is whether those afflicted with drive, achievement, leadership, push of self and range of activities could be willing to exchange some of these outstanding qualities for freedom from pain.

As all gouty persons and their friends know, there is no human ailment which causes such crippling pain at unpredictable times.

'I Don't Know How Much Longer We Can Keep Them Out'



Our Readers Say: Pride Important

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 200 words in length. Address them to "Our Readers Say," Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, 628 N. Eutaw St.

Dear AFRO:

Each day when the final bell rang at School No. 130 I grew tense and pale — with butterflies in my stomach.

They were going to get me like yesterday. And the day before.

I went to school without carfare, without lunch. I never had reason to use the cafeteria.

Kids from nice homes, with money to spend, and high marks in school, resented poor hungry kids. They had no pride, and their ego could easily be recharged by using me for a punching bag. The young as well as the old must take a giant step, or else he will get swallowed up in his own vanity.

The middle class colored persons who can afford three meals a day generally resent those who have no food.

I live in the slums, and if these kids don't soon get some pride, the cancerous growth of drugs, yokings, purse snatching and prostitution is going to take a major toll.

PAUL D. McALLISTER

Shop Shortages

Dear AFRO:

I'm a student of Carver Vocational High School, in the trade of carpentry. We are currently in a struggle, to bring better facilities to our shops.

In my opinion and the opinion of my classmates, representatives of all shops would like to bring to the attention of the public the problems existing.

In comparison to Mervo, our problems specifically concern facilities which are out-moded, out-dated and after careful observation by all representatives in other shops, we find that we must have larger shop facilities.

We, the students, don't have enough machines and tools to go around. We are asking you to print this letter, so that the public will be informed of our needs at Carver.

FUTURE CARPENTER

Sightseeing: How To Go About Making A Coup

By James D. Williams

About the only way an undeveloped nation can command attention these days is to stage a coup. So much time is devoted to Vietnam and other major issues that there just isn't any left over for these nations, unless they get themselves embroiled in a mess of trouble.

The making of a coup, however, is not a simple thing. You just can't go out and have one; you've got to plan for it. We've been fortunate enough to secure a transcript of a meeting that preceded a coup, in a country, that for security reasons must remain unidentified, but offers some insight into what goes into the making of a coup.

* * *

THE PRESIDENT opens the meeting of his cabinet with the statement:

"Gentlemen, I have called you together to tell you that we are going to have a coup."

"That's a good idea GGG, we've never had one of those before. By the way, what is a coup" asks General Matusi, who was recently promoted to that rank from corporal?

"What do you mean, what's a coup," fires back the president. "What kind of general are you anyway, not to know what a coup is? If you'd listen to the Voice of America you would find out that a coup is when a government comes under subversive Communist influence and the democratic minded Army throws the rascals out."

"I thought that was a revolution?"

"No silly. A revolution according to USIA is when a democratically constituted government is overthrown by a Communist - led minority of "malcontents," answers the president.

* * *

"I'M GLAD you cleared that point up, chief," says George, the minister of foreign affairs, "but you've got me worried since if we do have a coup the government has to be thrown out of office, and since we are the government, it's us that will get thrown out."

"You just don't understand, how these things work, George," the president admonishes. "We aren't really going to get thrown out of office, we're just going to make it look like we've been thrown out."

"Forgive me, chief for asking this, but just how do we go about it?" asks Rodney, the minister of education.

"I can see that you don't know anything about diplomacy. We'll do like other people do when they have coups, we'll let our assistants take over for a few weeks, and then when everybody has forgotten about it we'll come back into office and everything will be just like it was before."

"Then why have a coup at all" asks the navy minister, who is in charge of two fishing trawlers and one slightly banged up canoe.

"BECAUSE YOU guys have run through the treasury and we need some money, and the only way we are going to get any money is to have a coup and then send an SOS to LBJ asking for a loan to help build up one of those bulwark against communism, he's always talking about building up."

"Why don't we just go ahead and ask the United States for some money?" the finance minister wants to know.

"Boy," explodes the president, "I sure have a bunch of nuts for a cabinet. You just don't go and ask the U.S., for money right out. The country next door did that very thing and they not only got the money but they got the Peace Corps, the CIA, 1000 military advisors and a group of missionaries. America isn't just willing to give the money, they've got to try to save you as well."

"And you think our way will be better?" — that from the defense minister.

"Of course it will. When we stage the coup we'll tell the U.S. that the Communists are behind it."

"But we don't have any Communists," answers the chief of internal security.

"SO WHO'S to know? We'll get a couple of our people to fire a few shots through the front window of the American embassy, the ambassador will dive under the desk and ring up LBJ to tell him that the Reds are on the move, and LBJ will go on television and explain—which nobody will understand—why it is necessary for the U.S. to get itself involved in our problems.

"AND YOU'RE sure that will work?"

"Sure I'm sure. LBJ will send over Hubert to explain to our people why the U.S. is unselfishly helping us, and Sen. Fulbright will get up in the senate and say that LBJ is barking up the wrong tree, which will make LBJ mad and he'll send us some more money."

"Gosh chief," says the defense minister with admiration in his voice, "you've sure got things figured out. But once we get the Americans in, how are we going to get them out?"

"You chaps don't give me credit for having any brains at all. After we get all the aid we need, we get some students to set fire to the USIA Library, we burn a few effigies and we start yelling about neo-colonialism."

"I wonder if that will do it chief?" offers the navy minister.

"It sure will. LBJ will go on TV again and explain to the American people that it really isn't necessary for the U.S. to get involved in the affairs of our country. Hubert will fly off to another country, and Sen. Fulbright will say, "See I told you all the time that you couldn't thrust those people."

PAUL D. McALLISTER

Pin-Point: Not What, But Who

By GEORGE W. COLLINS

The extent to which the Police Department is reorganized — something, the International Chiefs of Police says it sorely needs — will depend, to a large degree, upon who does the reorganizing.

At present the task is in the capable hands of a career military man of proven administrative ability, Maj. George M. Gelston.

In the short time General Gelston has held the reins of leadership of the department (Feb. 3), he has displayed abundant evidence that he is adequately aware of the urgency to create a well-trained, well-equipped and well-rounded force capable of meeting the demands of a modern and progressive city.

If we are to believe the experts who found the department woefully lacking from the commissioner's office down to the meter maids, our force has been operating on practices which were questionable, even in the forties.

With the assurance of legislative cooperation, coupled with that of state and city officials, there is little doubt here that the general will be able to do a commendable job of bringing the department "into the 60's" as I.A.C.P. experts said it must be.

There is a nagging fear here, however, that it won't be as easy as it sounds. Here's why.

* * *

IF THE general were in a position to import his own high echelon administrators, implementing the recommended changes would be as simple as issuing an order, and holding the respective administrators responsible for its execution.

Unfortunately that is not the case and this is where trouble comes in.

In order to effect the changes, the commissioner must rely, to a large extent, upon an inherited staff of high echelon people who are, in the main, products of a system which created the present department and its attendant illnesses.

On the basis of personal knowledge it can be said that the majority of the "inherited brass" regarded the force as an ideal set-up before the I.A.C.P. took its critical look.

Their anxiety, therefore, to change a system which has served them well —collectively and individually — is open to question.

Since it's an axomatic fact that we are all animals of habit, I wonder how realistic is it to expect men who have — in the course of two and three decades — reached the top of the heap in an admittedly faulty department to eagerly and seriously put their proverbial shoulders to the wheel and correct those faults.

To do so, I'm convinced, would be the height of folly.

A case in point is the recent "clash of brass" at the Western District.

When a vacancy appeared in a radio car, Capt. Dennis P. Mello, the first district commander of color in the city's history, logically integrated the car by assigning a colored officer on a permanent basis.

This, it should be noted was also a "first."

The move was widely publicized and met approval of General Gelston, who, in the same week had publicly declared that he wanted it understood that an integrated police department was his goal.

* * *

WHETHER THIS move met with the approval of newly - named Chief Inspector Millard B. Horton and Inspector Frank A. Deems, who supervises Western, can be answered by their past performances.

Inspector Horton, during his days as a captain, once commanded the old Northwestern District, which is now Western.

As an inspector he supervised the current Eastern. In both cases, no officer of color was ever assigned to what is known in the department as "choice jobs," including radio cars.

In fact a recent edition of the AFRO carried a complaint from an officer of color who publicly accused Inspector Horton of impeding integrated assignments in Eastern.

As to Inspector Deems he has supervised the Western District for years now. To date he has shown no indication or willingness to assure the assignment of policemen on the basis of ability alone.

Fact of the matter is, I have it on sound authority that when Captain Mello set the radio car precedent, two cars were supposed to have been integrated.

Inspector Deems, my unimpeachable source swears by all that's holy, rescinded the second act.

Further evidence that the current hierchy of the department, excluding General Gelston, holds no fondness for an updated department was demonstrated during the "clash of brass."

When the white officer balked at obeying a simple order issued by Captain Mello — which triggered the flare-up — Chief Inspector Horton stoutly defended the officer.

Fortunately the commissioner personally took the matter in hand and assured this writer Tuesday that the situation has been resolved.

* * *

The question then is this:

Will every white officer who unhappily finds himself (this applies to every district)) assigned to work with a colored officer — or given other duty he doesn't like — get sympathy from the commissioner.

If so, one can predict now just how much integration — and reorganization — will find its way to the department.

For the benefit of those who are misled to believe that complete integration of the force is the only stumbling block to effective reorganization, this bit of intelligence is vital:

There are precious few of the I.A.C.P. recommendations which the inherited brass agrees with.

General Gelston's task of reorganizing the force, therefore, will be considerably more than a lark.

Time and experiences have taught us that men who create a system are not anxious to acknowledge its faults, not to mention a willingness to try and correct them.

Reorganization then, will depend greatly on who will do the reorganizing.

Labor and Business

By STERLING A. PAIGE

New Image

For the first time in its history, the Baltimore Building and Construction Trades Council, representing the unions in the Baltimore area, has gone on record publicly as being determined to purge itself of discriminatory practices.

The position the Council now takes is laudable; being an open admission that racial discrimination did and does exist within its member unions, and a complete about-face from the age-old attitude that no discrimination existed in fact.

A statement issued last week by Guido Iozzi Jr., president of the Trades Council said, "We would have to be an ostrich, which I am not, to state there has been no discrimination practiced in the past by the building trades unions."

The Council has for years been loaded with such "ostriches" and Iozzi, himself, has been counted among their numbers.

* * *

THE CRAFTS unions have, historically, been known as the most discriminatory in the trade union movement.

The statement was issued following a visit to Baltimore by a Federal aide who investigated racial policies among construction unions.

It also followed the beating labor recently took in its year - long battle for the repeal of Section 14b of the Taft-Hartley Act.

A significant part of the defeat can be attributed to congressional lack of enthusiasm about handing more power to unions who have failed to exhibit willingness to do their own house-cleaning.

* * *

I CAN only take Mr. Iozzi at his word and, therefore, congratulate him on being the first official of the Building Trades Council ever to openly admit racial discrimination exists. Iozzi has also called upon civil rights groups to join in the Council's program to wipe out bias, bring more colored into apprenticeship training —and —he is asking civil rights groups to help increase the amount of union work in the area.

My observation is the last request will be contingent upon results achieved with the first two mentioned.

It is true an alliance between the labor and civil rights movements is a "natural." Each can do much for the other and their causes might well be considered one and the same. Sincerity is the one requirement.

Poet's Nook

SIMPLICITY

Don't want much — just a half acre—
Of Forty - Second Street;
As old car to knock around in,
Last year's Rolls Royce will be alright.
Don't want much — just a simple home—
In Beverly Hills—
And a warm embrace,
Like the Midas Touch.
Don't want much — just average—
The Dow - Jones average,
And visit a famed old Fort—
Old Fort Knox.
Don't want much — just a ride High
on the hog — and live with the
diamond of hope,
The Hope diamond, that is.
Don't want much — just a love affair—
With Lady Luck
It's the little things, that mean so much,
I don't want much.

PAUL D. McALLISTER

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 to expose corruption and condemn injustices race prejudice or conspiracies.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR., 1929

THIS DUO will present Beatrice Thompson, soprano, and Harry Thompson, bass - baritone in a duo - recital on Sunday p.m. The program is sponsored by the choir and choir guild of Holy Trinity and will be held in the Pullen Gymnasium of Coppin State College, 2000 block of Warwick Ave. Admission is free.

Stokes sees rights leaders being put in federal jobs by 'raiding'

By MARY RICHARDSON

"You students have never seen a young baby whose nose and top lip have been eaten away by a rat, have you?" Carl B. Stokes, the first colored legislator in Ohio asked his Morgan State College audience last Wednesday in Holmes Hall.

"Today when you are colored and poor, you live in a cocoon. You can't see out. You just exist," Mr. Stokes said.

As this year's "Politician-in-Residence" at Morgan, Mr. Stokes discussed the poverty program and his recent loss of Cleveland's mayoralty by 2,000 votes out of 237,000 cast.

Mr. Stokes told the AFRO "the Civil Rights Movement throughout the country is being 'raided' by federally-sponsored projects and agencies."

James Farmer was named as the most recent leader to be taken out of the "activists role in civil rights."

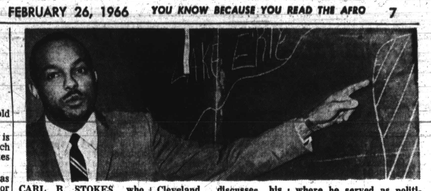
"ALL OVER the country," Mr. Stokes said, "the Urban Leagues and NAACP's are involved in federal projects which nullify their ability to go into the streets in the fight for civil rights."

Monies for the poor in the war on poverty were seen in the past as going to persons to write research papers on slum areas, Mr. Stokes told his audience.

"The poverty program is not run for the poor for which it was intended," Mr. Stokes said.

Philadelphia was cited as an example where the poor representatives of the slum areas had to be elected and the other 70 percent of those on the poverty council were appointed.

The poor people's voting potential was called the "greatest threat to those in power" and registering votes should be a main goal" if the poor want a say in how poverty funds will be used," Mr. Stokes said.



CARL B. STOKES, who came within a whisker of being elected mayor of Cleveland, discusses his area during lecture at Morgan State College where he served as politician - in - residence Feb. 22-24.

Loyalty Club in anniversary

The Loyalty Club of Zorah Elliott Temple 717, Daughters of the IBPOEW, held its sixth anniversary services Sunday at United Baptist Church.

Members and newly elected officers are Daughters Edna Mae Scott, president; Sarah Ross, vice president; Eunice White, secretary; Virginia White, chaplain; Mary King, Cora Street, Mildred Lee, Dgt. ruler, Lula Peoples, Maude Wilson, and honorary member.

Dgt. Ethel Javins of Washington, D.C., second vice president of the Tri - State Association, and Dgt. Blanche Nickings of Baltimore were guests for the observance.

Two Guys

SALE TODAY thru SATURDAY

MEN'S NEW SPRING CASUAL JACKETS
ZIPPER & CARDIGAN STYLES
Brand new assortment of seasons newest styles in every wanted fabric including solids, two tones. New style effects including "drop" shoulders, "mod-look" and more. Black, tan, light blue, newter, burgundy. Sizes: 36-46.
9.99

MEN'S REVERSIBLE ZIP JACKETS
4.44
Ideal 2 in 1 jacket, fine combed plaids reversing to solids. Smartly styled in zipper front & barracuda storm tab collar, two slash pockets on each side. Muted plaids. Sizes 36-46.

MEN'S ALL WEATHER COATS
14.66
Dacron® & cotton, cotton and acetate blends, fly front, split shoulder styling. Solids, plaids and fancies. Regulars, shorts, longs, 36 to 46.

Misses' & Jrs' TRENCH RAIN COATS
8.88

Juniors and Misses' FASHION WISE PETTICOAT SKIRTS

PETTICOAT LINING
Tackle twill (60% Rayon, 40% nylon double breasted.) Epau Yoke front, belted all around & sleeve belt. Black, navy. Sizes 5 to 15, 6 to 16.

Easy care VERVE® skirts with full exclusive petticoat lining, featuring matching lace trim in new fashion colors. *75% Spun rayon, 25% cotton.
Sizes: Juniors 7 to 15 & Misses 8 to 16
3.99

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Assorted necklines in solids & stripes, pastels & white. Sizes: 7-14.
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