IN MEMORIAM

May we let our light so shine that it will illuminate that which is good and beautiful, and magnify our Father which is in heaven. May we stand strong and firm against despair, falsehood, rudeness, hatred, pessimism and prejudice.—Carl Murphy, Editor-Publisher—1889-1967

Wash Dishes Or Else

The "no dish washing for boys" opinion voiced last week by Juvenile Court Master John O'Grady is more than mildly disturbing.

We like to believe that the parents of the 15-year-old who found himself in Juvenile Court the other day are more qualified to determine why it is necessary for the youngster to wash dishes.

The same applies to any other household chore they deem necessary.

To extend Master O'Grady's logic it is improper for a boy to do the dishes notwithstanding the fact that:

His mother is working; there are no girls in the home; the mother is sick, or the family could not afford a dishwasher.

Such logic is illogical, to say the least.

It should come as no surprise to Master O'Grady that as far as most parents are concerned when junior is asked to wash the dishes he will do it, or feel the results in the lower regions of the anatomy.

We can't help but wonder if the good master's afflictions of an affluent background aren't showing.

Otherwise he would know that some of this nation's greatest men are former dishwashers.

Fact is, dishwashing, like cutting wood, carrying coal, fuel oil, scrubbing floors, steps, washing windows and other household chores have taught many of today's men the value of teamwork.

While we can appreciate Master O'Grady's concern with developing manly characteristics in our men of tomorrow, suggesting that they can expect legal sanction in refusing to perform household chores, including dishwashing, is a precedent fraught with danger.

Perhaps it's a good thing for Master O'Grady that he is too old for the draft.

Otherwise as soon as he reached his first army post and voiced such sentiments, he'd be a prime candidate for KP (kitchen police.)

On second thought, it wouldn't be a bad idea.

The School Establishment

The reaction of Baltimore officials to the recent report of the National Association of Education is depressing.

We have heard nothing to encourage the belief that this city is ready to start spending available or future funds in a way that will assure inner-city pupils a fair break.

This has not been done in the past, is not being done now, and, if we read the reactions correctly, is not in the plans.

Educators and officials who need more expert statements on the need for better educational opportunities in the inner city need only listen to these words from the April issue of **Southern Education Report:**

"But the benefits of the Head Start program can not be duplicated, let alone expanded into a year-round educational diet, in classes of 40 and 50, with teachers prepared only for middle-class children, at schools that are architectural monstrosities.

"We would not, after all, anticipate that starting a good diet at age 5 would protect a child against malnutrition at age 6.

"The mind, like the brain, requires food — biochemical, physiological and cognitive — at every stage of its development.

"This will not be done — it has not been done — at the average inner-city elementary school, with its overcrowding, its educational impoverishment, and its generally negative attitudes toward the poor.

"It will not be done as long as there is resistance in the administrative bureaucracy and teachers' organizations to the compulsory assignment of the best teachers to the poorest schools.

"It will not be done as long as there is the same entrenched resistance to providing financial incentive or other rewards for inner-city service.

"What is required is a commitment to provide a sustained diet of enrichment for those who come to school starved — already imbued with some or much of the pessimism, the defeat, the cynicism of the slum."

If there are any officials in Baltimore who feel they are doing the right thing by promoting the welfare of the white and affluent students at the expense of the colored and poor, they are mistaken.

The most dangerous thing Baltimore can do is to think that the poor and uneducated are forever going to accept meekly the fact that they are being prepared to enjoy the table crumbs or the junk heaps.

What Baltimore officials, and especially those in the schools, have not admitted is that they think too much like the rest of the public-private Establishment.

The Establishment has crippled a certain percentage of the population to the extent it has trouble keeping up in any competitive race.

However, the times are forcing changes in most areas, employment opportunities being one of the most important.

But instead of the school system here realizing it must outpace the other parts of the Establishment — so that when the Establishment is ready to accept everyone on an equal basis, every student will have had the same chance to prepare — it offers lame excuses and lags behind.

The public has not been given any credible reason why its School Commissioners spend only a fraction of available building funds where they are most needed.

The ConCon Task

A 13-year-old student came home from school the other day to report that Maryland is about to rewrite its ancient Constitution because:

1. It has many outdated amendments.

2. It needs revision to meet modern times.

That's pretty good logic from an eighth grader. His teacher deserves credit.

It seems important to us that those who aspire to help with this historic task understand what it's all about.

This is going to be hard work. We fear some people may be more anxious to collect the $50 a day and the prestige than to make a contribution.

This will not be a Democratic or Republican convention. It will not be a place where delegates will be able to take a month to find out what is going on.

Not every delegate to the convention is going to be interested in coming up with a consitution that will bring Maryland into the modern age. Not all will be "good guys in white hats."

There will be delegates who would like to legislate such things as metropolitan or regional setups — which will not be a proper function of the convention.

In short, there are going to be delegates at the convention who will have special interests to promote, political and otherwise.

It is important that every effort be made to send as many good delegates as possible to join with the other well-meaning representatives who will be able to understand what everybody is doing and speak up when questions or opposition are necessary.

That is why the community must support one slate of candidates rather than back individuals willy-nilly with the result almost any one with $50 might get elected.

No Room For Error

The boundless reaches of outer space hold a frightening number and variety of built-in dangers.

Yet our astronauts do not hesitate to risk their lives to further our knowledge and understanding of the mysteries of the universe.

When — and if — we succeed in setting up shop on the moon or other distant planets, it will be because these brave men courageously worked and walked in the chambers of potential instant death.

Because of the immensity of these natural dangers, we owe it to them to make certain that man-made dangers are kept at an absolute minimum.

Like all Americans, we were deeply grieved by the Jan. 27 tragic deaths of Astronauts Virgil Grissom, Edward H. White, and Roger B. Chaffee, who burned to death in the cockpit of their Apollo space ship.

We felt then — and now — that it was terribly ironic that the lives of these priceless men should be lost in a dress rehearsal rather than actual flight into space.

The tragedy was magnified this week when we learned that investigators found "sloppy workmanship" could have contributed to the tragedy.

"Deficiencies in design, manufacture, installation, rework and quality control existed in the electrical wiring," the probers found.

While it was a relief to hear that no evidence was found to indicate sabotage, this does not lessen the impact of the tragedy on ehe victims' families or our space program.

The report underscores the complexity and danger inherent in the conquest of space and grimly demonstrates there is no margin for error in this increasingly vital mission.

POETS' NOOK

Before The Marriage

I saw how lovely you were
And how sweet and gentle
I saw how honest and noble you were
A classic example of the female animal.
But society sneered; her legs are too long,
Her hair is on the short side
And she isn't quite light enough
And she doesn't dress in high style.
The stones were cast; society knew best
She wasn't good enough, so I called the wedding off
So I bought a cannon, and pulled heartily on the trigger;
And shot society dead —
It was a case of self defense.

PAUL D. McALLISTER

I Would Help Mother But The Judge Says That's Woman's Work

THE PEOPLE SPEAK: Demands Board Action

Readers are invited to submit letters for publication. All letters must be signed but signatures will be omitted if requested. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length. Address them to "Our Readers Say," Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore.

Dear AFRO:

In the April 8 issue of your newspaper, Eli Frank Jr., president of the Board of School Commissioners, is quoted as saying that the National Education Association's critical report on our local public schools was prepared for its "shock value alone."

Mr. Frank's comparison of the NEA report to a "sensational" Italian documentary film on Africa is evading the issue.

The issue is the colored children have been cheated of their educational rights for decades.

YOUR CAPTION, "Frank Says Board Knew All in Study" is accurate. The board has known. The problem is that the board made little use of what it knew.

The board, present and past members, has for years been approached by parents, teachers, and concerned citizens about discriminatory denial of educational facilities for colored schools.

The board has betrayed the trust assigned to it to see that all public school children are given a decent education.

With dignity, and perhaps with equal disdain, the Board of School Commissioners has listened to complaints and protests.

It has allowed the folly of colored and white administrators of the hierachy of 3 E. 25th Street to prostrate the native ability of colored pupils to the arrogant intent of concentration of the best in education for the welfare of white pupils.

THE BOARD has sat in pious aloofness while teachers protested in indignation against Baltimore's lack of vision and concern for an educated citizenry.

Mr. Frank and his board members cannot use the cloak of lack of funds to hide the years of discriminatory neglect and abuse of colored children that has been perpetrated by the entrenched staff of administrators in the Department of Education.

The failure of these administrators to respect the rights of colored students make a perennial mockery of public education.

IT IS a specious display of efficiency for the board to hire excellent superintendents if the same perpetrators of discrimination and disdain remain in their controlling positions, secure in the silent acceptance of their incompetence by the Board of School Commissioners.

Superintendents have come to Baltimore, died, or left this frustrating locale. The vengeful, deceitful, hypocrits of education remain firmly in control of the deterioration of Baltimore public schools.

As a taxpayer and parent of public school children, I ask other citizens to join in demanding that the Board of School Commissioners take drastic and immediate steps to carry out their responsibility to insure needed changes as were so clearly described by the report of the National Education Association.

(Mrs.) GILBERT L. BANFIELD

Against Rate Hike

Dear AFRO:

President Johnson's proposal to raise the cost of postage "one cent per five cent stamp" is stated with purposeful intent to deceive.

In actuality, Mr. Johnson is asking for a 20 percent postage increase! A business firm which formerly spent $100 per month for postage would be paying $120.

Viewed thusly, the increase is not insignificant.

C. BORSLLA

Protect Suspect

Dear AFRO:

I cannot understand why you ran the picture of Henry Simon and his son on the front page of Friday's paper. I think it was terrible and below your standards.

If you have to have a picture for the "news" of it, why didn't you run a blown-up cut-out of just the boy.

Alas, at his age and a high school student why run a picture of him at all?

Mr. Simon, the father, is a fine business man and citizen. I know you would be just like him, or you should be as militant, in protecting your child.

EARL KOGER, SR.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Our correspndent refers to the photo which appeared on our front page, April 8, 1967. It showed a concerned parent attempting to shield his 16-year-old son as the youth left a police station where he was charged in a bank holdup.)

Unflattering Picture

Dear AFRO:

As I watched your issue of the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN (April 8) sell like wildfire across the counter of the business that my husband operates, I sold many more copies, and, I thought how he probably could have sold many more copies, and, consequently, I was compelled to write this letter.

There on the front page was a choice piece of news for the seekers of sensationalism.

I DO not write this letter in my behalf. I do write it, however, as a wife and a parent.

No one else would have a better knowledge of the man whose picture appears on this front page.

He has never sought publicity (although I feel some of his efforts have been worthy of mention.)

In the more than 20 years that he has been in business we have sold, subscribed to and allowed our sons to distribute your papers.

To be pictured in such an unflattering manner — and so that your photographer could not be denied this picture, he waited several hours while the family was detained at a hearing — hardly seems fair to a husband and father who never seeks publicity, who devotes so many efforts toward his family and, at the same time lives a commendable life before his family.

NEVERTHELESS, YOUR papers will continue to sell across our counter. It is my wish that this picture (unflattering, to say the least) does not leave a scar of shame on the other young members of our family (not included in the picture).

I also hope that my husband will accept this letter to you as a tribute to him from me for his love, protection and guidance provided by him to his family through the years.

MRS. JESSIE M. SIMON

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Our correspondent is the mother of Lloyd P. Simon, 16-year-old City College student who was photographed leaving Northwestern Municipal Court.

He is charged with the $3,860-holdup of a branch of the Union Trust Co. Bank. He was released on bail pending action of the grand jury.

Pin-Point: The Anatomy Of A Dilemma

By GEORGE W. COLLINS

Anatomy, says the book, is "separating or dividing into parts for detailed examination."

"Dilemma," says the same book, "is a problem seemingly incapable of a satisfactory solution."

The problem under a piece-by-piece examination here this week deals with the state of colored businesses in Baltimore.

Even a cursory examination reveals that, for the most part, the state of colored owned and operated businesses here is generally lamentable.

For the most part, such businesses are restricted to providing services or conducting retail operations, on a small scale.

Recognizing this unfortunate fact, the Ford Foundation people devised what is hoped to be a partial cure.

APPROXIMATELY 100 days ago, the Council For Equal Business Opportunity set up shop in a suite of offices on the lower level of the Mondawmin Concourse.

It has a quarter of a million dollars operating budget.

Benjamin Goldstein, a former department store executive and more recently a key cog in the wheels of the Small Business Development Centers, was named director.

Samuel T. Daniels, former labor executive, ranking state and city official, was chosen assistant director.

The mandate handed the council by the sponsoring foundation was to "develop substantial colored businesses in Baltimore."

This was to be achieved by two means:

1. By assisting existing businesses to expand through counseling and creating sources for needed capital.

2. Assist in establishing new businesses.

The latter includes competitive retail clothing outlets, drug stores, new and used car franchises and dealerships, light manufacturing and building contractors.

The council has two years to get the project underway.

It would be premature to expect any bold signs of progress in a mere 100 days. If such signs are forthcoming within the reasonable future, there should at least be some hint at this juncture of progress to come.

There isn't any. That explains the dilemma.

The council is at a virtual standstill because there is a basic disagreement between it and businessmen who could obviously benefit from its services.

RELYING ON results of numerous surveys, the directors say evidence shows that many of the businessmen now enjoying only a marginal degree of success could become highly successful by merely improving their operational technique.

Businessmen, on the other hand, particularly those who are convinced they are achieving a measure of success, contend the only thing they need for expansion is money.

This conflict in concepts has stymied any meaningful relationship between the council and businessmen who could profit from its counseling in modern business methods and procedures.

A study of the problem suggests several recommendations: Among them:

1. An admission on the part of local businessmen that, in spite of a degree of success, in some isolated cases, they are still out of the mainstream of the business community.

Money without know-how — like know-how without money — can end only in failure.

2. The council has virtually no success in opening up sources for capital, necessary for expansion.

ITS APPEAL therefore, would be greatly enhanced if it were able to point businessmen to a source of needed capital if examination of present methods reveals that this is one of the needs.

In essence then if the council can assure businessmen interested in improving and expanding their operations that both know-how and capital are available, this phase of the dilemma would lend itself to a solution.

• • •

AS TO new business, the ingredients are different but the results are the same.

Here the council is seeking young men, trained in some area of big business or sufficient experience in same to head up their own operations.

There is one hitch.

Before finance institutions will agree to grant loans for the establishment of new businesses, the applicant must be able to produce what is known in the trade as "equity capital."

At the moment Messrs. Goldstein and Daniels said little progress has been made in creating a source of "equity capital." An effort in this connection is being pushed, they said.

Unless this becomes an accomplished fact, there is little use to expect any significant impact from colored owned and operated new businesses on the over-all business community.

THERE ARE several reasons.

First, the young, trained, big business candidate of color is as rare as the proverbial hen's teeth.

Big business has traditionally barred their fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers from entering the charmed circle.

In the absence of a demand, practicality dictated the absence of the inclination to spend time, money and energy to prepare for a profession which promised no future.

Secondly, the few young potential candidates available for the world of giant business have been swallowed up by corporate giants who are anxious to keep pace with the changing times.

This also applies to local, state and Federal Governments.

FURTHER, IF there are a few such potentials in our midst who have "equity capital," they are inclined to feel they don't need the council's service.

The harsh truth is, there are no such creations as "instant colored big businessmen" because business has traditionally seen to that.

The same is true of other highly skilled and technical professions.

INASMUCH as the pendulum of change has swung against tradition, there is now a crying need for compensatory action on the part of business, industry and government.

Put another way, they must offer training and employment opportunities for young potential businessmen of color in order to fill the void now created by centuries of neglect.

Political Notebook: Vietnam Headaches For Girls, Women

By MAX JOHNSON

Nobody seems to want to talk out loud about it — but two quite frightening aspects of the Viet War face our girls who are now, and soon will be, blossoming into young womanhood.

One is embedded in the big business of politics — and carries some degree of hope.

The other grimly concerns the future happiness of the coming young women themselves — and carries virtually no ray of hope.

Both carry a highly explosive seriousness.

• • •

LET'S TAKE the matter of politics in Marylasd — for example.

President Johnson and his Viet mess are seeping away our young men with bright potentials more steadily and quickly than may be realized at cursory attention.

Impact of this is already noticeable.

Young men of worth, who should be available for appointments to political jobs, are at an alarming scarcity.

Young men, who otherwise would be in a grooming process for elective public office, organizing, other key political activities, just aren't around.

President Johnson is sending more and more of them to Vietnam.

And more and more of them just aren't coming back.

For many months now a disproportionate number of colored servicemen have been casualties in the Viet scandal — and nothing here indicates a change.

Put this in the perspective of the same situation affecting states other than Maryland — and up jumps an alarming picture.

• • •

THIS IS thrusting an increasingly heavy responsibility politically on the shoulders of our young and older women.

They must by necessity become more politically active.

They must by necessity become more knowledgeable politically — knowledgeable from respected knowledgeable sources, not political hacks.

They must by necessity seek elective public office — take a keener interest in governmental boards and commissions.

They must do these things — if they are to protect the political advances that have been made.

They must take this political interest — if they are to insure new advances during the interim of Vietnam.

Many of the older men now around and shouldering these activities will not, from the way matters now look, be around when the Viet mess is eventually over.

So — the political burden falls more and more on our young and not too older women.

If the home fires are to be kept burning even more brightly than ever in this arena — they must pitch in and help more and more with adding the fuel.

Thus — there is a degree of hope.

NOW — LET'S look briefly to the other related Viet matter of the budding young women's future happiness.

Embracing questions parents of such girls might ask themselves are:

Who of worth will be available for my daughter to marry?

What will be the area of the field of eligible young men for her selection?

What really are her chances for a desirable marriage — a rightful family-raising life?

Look in the direction of the Viet mess — hope is dim.

The ready, positive, quick answers are certain to be slowed to doubtful meditation.

President Johnson speaks eloquently of envisioning a Great Society.

Somebody ought to remind him that the greatness of any society must depend on the full lives of its young women and men.

I see the whole thing this way.

The more young men we lose in Vietnam — the more we endanger the race's future growth and healthy development.

Of course, I know well that women out live men anybway — and that there is becoming more and more of them than men because of this fact.

But — there's another side to the thing.

I just don't agree that LBJ and his Viet scandal should help nature along in this respect.

AFRO Credo

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God and in this 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 and prejudice, or compromise.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR. — 1930

4th D. Con Con slate filing deadline set

A selection of a possible unified 4th District slate of Constitutional Convention candidates will not be finalized until after Wednesday.

Meanwhile, a citizens committee representing a cross-section of the area's organizations will be screening candidates through Tuesday.

These are scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the Heritage United Church of Christ, Liberty Heights Ave. near Rosedale St.

Applications for this screening are available at offices of the AFRO, 628 N. Eutaw St.; League of Women Voters, Sutton Place, and the YMCA, 1639 Druid Hill Ave.

Deadline for filing this at the church, or with the group's chairman, the Rev. Frank L. Williams, pastor, Metropolitan Methodist Church, is Saturday.

• • •

A TENTATIVELY agreed upon slate has been announced jointly by Senators Verda F. Welcome and Clarence M. Mitchell 3rd, the district's top Democratic political leaders.

It includes:

Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell, attorney and NAACP state president; Judge Jerome Robinson, of Municipal Court; Dr. Furman L. Templeton, Urban League director and a member of Constitutional Convention Enabling Commission;

The Rev. Marcus G. Wood, pastor, Providence Baptist Church; Henry B. Waskow, teacher and Americans for Democratic Action member; John W. White, president, National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees — and a still undecided Republican.

Archie M. Jones, head of the 4th District Republican Organization, told the AFRO Earl Koger, veteran insuranceman, is now his group's choice.

• • •

BOTH SENATORS Welcome and Mitchell said they would cooperate willingly with the GOP. Mr. Williams' citizens' group and Mr. Jones in drawing a unity slate of representative candidates.

The senators pointed out they had taken the initiative in his matter, because nobody else had taken action until last Saturday.

Deadline for filing for the Convention is next Friday and final withdrawal date is the following Friday, April 28.

The special election to select the 142 delegates to the Convention throughout the state is set for June 13.

The 4th District has seven seats.

Delegates may earn up to $4,500 at the Convention that begins at Annapolis in the House of Delegates chamber Sept. 21 and must end by decree prior to Christmas.

Appeals Court clear Hamla

The Maryland Court of Appeals has reversed the decision of a lower court in the case of Coleman and Thorne V. Hamla Corporation.

The lower court had ruled that the Hamla Corporation, a concern contracting home repairs and improvements on credit, was in violation of Maryland laws concerning usery.

The appeals court ruled that the company, represented by Atty. Gene Psoras and the law firm of Ginsberg and Ginsberg, is not guilty of usery under present Maryland laws.

Eney, 4th Dist. Con Con candidates to meet Monday

H. Vernon Eney, chairman of the Constitutional Convention Commission, and candidate from the 4th District for Convention delegates, are slated for a "Meet the Public" session Monday night.

The meeting, scheduled for 8 p.m. at 1524 W. North Ave., is one of a series of Town Hall meetings sponsored by the 4th District Democratic Organization.

The meeting is open to all candidates, not just those listed earlier as being considered by Senators Verda F. Welcome and Clarence Mitchell.

The two groups, along with other community leaders, have announced their intention to back a non-partisan slate for the June 13 election.

The regular meeting of the 4th District group will be held at 7:30 p.m., immediately prior to the Town Hall session, according to Abner Lee, president of the Organization.

The public is invited to attend and participate in the discussion.

Shields Jones at 13 is top AFRO newsboy

His name is Shields Jones, he's 13 years old and this week's choice for the Most Outstanding AFRO Carrier Award.

Shields has been a carrier since the summer of 1962. Like all AFRO carriers, he began his route with 10 prospective customers. He has increased that to 40.

Yet, the remarkable thing is that this young man consistently sells 180 newspapers each week.

How does he do it?:

"Well," he answers, "I go to places where there are people who read newspapers. In the evenings between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. I stand in front of the bank at North and Hilton Sts. The bank is open and a lot of busses pass through that area. So I get the bank people and the bus people too."

THIS SORT of thinking has been the key to Shields' success. Over the past 5 years he has won many prizes offered by the AFRO Circulation Dept. to its carrier boys.

There include baseball, bat and glove, tennis shoes, and a basketball.

WHEN SHIELDS first joined the carrier staff he did so not really sure that he wanted to sell papers.

Recalling how it came about, he says, "My cousin and a friend of ours were out riding our bikes. We passed the AFRO building. My mother had told me to get a job if I wanted to have some extra money. So I went in and signed up. But it was just for fun.

"I was more surprised than she was when I found out that I had made it. She just told me to go on and start selling 'em."

SHIELDS lives with his parents Mr. and Mrs. John Ross. He has two sisters, Andrea, 19, Jeanie, 10 and 5 year old Mark is his only brother.

At Lemmel Junior High School where Shields is in the 7th grade he's also the best baseball hitter and the hardest running fullback. His coach says he's so sure his money so that he may study at Morgan State College.

He's not quite certain just what he'd like to do professionally or what he wants to study in college. But for the time being he's pretty certain about the present.

"The Science Club at school is taking a trip soon to Canada and I'm going because I've already got my $80," says he jubilantly.

SHIELDS JONES

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Attractive expanded vinyl suede jackets, fully rayon lined with detail stiching, trims and deep pockets. Select from a number of styles and colors. Sizes 10 to 18.

GIRLS' LAMINATED SPRING JACKETS $2.22
Spring shades. Sizes 4 to 14.

BOYS' WOVEN PLAID PERMANENT PRESS SPORT JACKETS $6.00
Sizes 6 to 18.

BOYS' NON-IRON KORATHON DRESS SLACKS $3.00
Sizes 8 to 20 in group.

JR. BOYS' PERMANENT PRESS SHIRTS $1.00
White. Sizes 3 to 7.

BOYS' SPORT, KNIT AND NO-IRON NYLON TRICOT SHIRTS $1.00
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