Baltimore Afro-American

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

Judge Cole Wouldn't Switch

When Municipal Court Judge Harry A. Cole raises his hand in a solemn pledge to dispense justice impartially and without fear or favor, the AFRO will be especially proud.

Our pride is rooted in a sense of satisfaction derived from watching an aggressive young man climb the ladder of success.

The occasion will also remind us of the persistence of a man who more than once was urged — without success, it should be noted — to change his party affiliation in order to quicken his rise to political prominence.

Unmoved by the dearth of promise while laboring under the Republican banner, Mr. Cole, to borrow a well known cliche, chose to fight rather than switch.

Following one distinguished term in the Maryland Senate, the new judge contented himself with creating a flourishing law practice while his former partners scored one political success after another.

Ultimately — as they always do — the winds of political change swept a Republican into the State House and when Gov. Ted Agnew needed a Republican judge he logically appointed Mr. Cole.

To us this latest achievement in the career of an outstanding lawyer is a just reward for patience, competence and fortitude.

These are the ingredients which go into the making of an outstanding judge.

We have no doubt that Judge Cole will prove to be a valuable asset to the Municipal Court Bench because he possesses these qualities in rare abundance.

Municipal Court

The indictment of some of Baltimore's Municipal Court judges by the President's Commission on Law Enforcement—founded on limited observations through it may be — is disturbing.

Particularly is this true since the Municipal Court system was sold to taxpayers as a definite improvement over the antiquated Police Magistrate System.

While the present system is open to valid criticism, it is still a vast improvement over the old.

The commission suggests that some judges are prone to play fast and loose with the liberty of persons accused of law violations.

Our police reporters concur in this finding, but properly point out that such judges and incidents are in the minority.

We are in agreement with Chief Judge I. Sewell Lamdin that most Municipal Court judges are doing the best they can with what they have.

We also agree with State's Attorney Charles E. Moylan Jr. that more money is needed to supply adequate personnel to improve the operation of the courts.

In those areas where money and personnel are not the problem, however, we are hopeful that Judge Lamdin and his colleagues will take whatever steps are necessary to correct conditions which attract justified criticism.

Who's To Blame?

Who is to be blamed for the regrettable strike that has upset the routine in many schools and created dangerous situations in several?

In the last hours when the public had been given to believe that agreements acceptable to all had been hammered out, Mayor McKeldin and his aides, the School Board and school administrators and the Baltimore Teachers Union managed to throw it all out the window.

Did the BTU have to march against the schools in face of a court restraining order when agreement apparently was so close at hand?

Did school and city officials have to order teachers arrested when they stood on the verge of agreement?

The BTU and the Public School Teachers Association long have been making requests for better conditions in salaries, buildings, materials, extra pay for extra time, etc.

In part, all the people named above must share the blame, officials for not having done more and the teacher groups for not having fought harder for quality education throughout the system.

It was as if here in Baltimore no one could see the handwriting on the wall as all around us — Philadelphia, Washington, New York and elsewhere — there have been signs that teachers have become restless.

Like others, these hardworking, underpaid professionals who play such an important role in our society no longer are willing to sit back and accept promises.

Whom should the pupils blame for not providing enough money to build the schools, to hire the teachers, to supply the materials and to provide the quality education they must have?

Who must shoulder the blame for letting things drift so far that teachers have felt compelled to desert their classrooms, take up picket signs and allow themselves to be arrested?

If it is the city officials who are at blame, most citizens cannot but realize they have egged them on with their budget cutting and short-changing of our children.

Wherever the fault lies, we hope Mayor McKeldin, city, school and union officials will sit down and settle this dispute promptly.

Vietnam Quagmire

Almost all the news out of Vietnam in recent weeks has been bad.

Things simply don't go as we hope, expect or predict.

This is one of the frightening aspects of the war.

Things which we were told would not happen, are happening.

Things we were told would happen, have not happened.

Where it all will end, apparently no one knows.

We seem to be on a treadmill heading some place we don't want to go.

The United States finds as time goes on that more and more must be done.

The other side reacts by doing more and more.

So it is now that we are bombing airbases and planning to send over more men.

Russia then announces plans to provide North Vietnam with more and better materials.

Newest speculation is that North Vietnam might prefer to deal with a new United States President.

That means late 1968 or early 1969 at best—and still this is but speculation.

Meanwhile the terrible cost to humans on both sides goes on. So do the material costs.

If this is a political war which cannot be won by military might, it is high time the efforts to negotiate be escalated.

It would be a tragedy were we to continue to kill and be killed for months only to settle in the end for what peace can be achieved for at this time.

Stormy Weather

The South wind brings wet weather,
The North wind wet and cold together;
The West wind always brings us rain,
The East wind blows it back again,
If the sun in red doth set
The next day surely will be wet;
If the sun doth set in grey,
The next will be a rainy day.

While these "Lines by a Pessimist" do not rival the romantic and enchanting visions of spring as envisioned by such romanticists as Browning and Shakespeare, they nevertheless, voice our sentiments about the fickle weather now drenching our memories of other springs.

It could still be worse. U.S. Weather Bureau statistics say we have been favored with two inches of rain since May 5 and more is due late today, the weather man said.

Would you believe, we are still behind the normal rainfall for this time of year?

While we have had 11.91 inches since Jan. 1, at this time a year ago we had received 14.9 inches.

Perhaps there is still some merit in the "every cloud has a silver lining" refrain, but in times like these it is difficult to believe.

It Takes More Than Talk

Community groups who have involved themselves in the selection of candidates for the Constitutional Convention are about to learn some of the facts of life that the crusty politicians picked up long ago.

High on the list are these two facts: It takes money and a lot of door-knocking to get a list of candidates elected to any office.

Groups in Baltimore's Fourth District will learn this Saturday at Heritage United Church what it should take to elect the ticket they want to win on June 13.

Earlier, after Senators Verda F. Welcome and Clarence M. Mitchell III had given their blessings to a proposed slate, these community groups felt the selections had not been made as democratically as such an election requires.

A total of 42 groups voted to back a ticket including Earl Koger, John Hargrove, Mrs. Rubye Gill, Mrs. Juanita Mitchell, Mrs. Miriam Winborne, David Mason and John White.

It is a good slate.

It was picked on a democratic basis.

But that won't get the slate elected.

There are other candidates in the race who also want to be elected.

In addition, one of the groups that voted for the community slate, the Democratic club led by Senator Mitchell, has decided to field a different ticket.

What it means is that the groups dedicated to electing the community-backed seven have to put up some money, roll up their sleeves and do some work if they want to be successful.

They can do the job if they really are as interested as they indicated earlier.

After Saturday we will know if they intend to follow through on what they have started.

THE PEOPLE SPEAK:

Guns Know No Race

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:

I am not exactly in accord with the boys' refusing to be drafted, but let's stop and think.

Our government sends men to Vietnam to help those people preserve their way of life and when they get back, if they get back, they don't know where they will live, especially if their skin is tan.

The other race doesn't want him to live in a certain place. Yet, the guns in Vietnam don't know races. It ought to be like that here.

I have never seen where war settled anything anyway. I long to see the day when men shall beat their spears into pruning hooks and their swords into plows.

"Shall nations lift up their swords against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. When that day comes, we will not wonder where will they live if they get back.

MRS. CARRIE ROBINSON

Unpleasant Experience

Dear AFRO:

I have had an unpleasant experience with a private gynecologist, who had been highly recommended to me. He consistently had refused to write "Mrs." on my prescriptions.

Recently I had the occasion to call him by telephone and he addressed me by my first name. I indicated my resentment and informed him that I paid him for his services and am due the courtesy of my title.

He became incensed, was rude and hung up.

My visits to his office would lead me to believe that this doctor now has a majority of colored patients. I feel fairly certain that he does not call his white patients "Marcia", Pat" or "Karen".

It's my opinion that if he is interested enough to accept our money, we women should demand his courtesy and respect.

(Mrs.) CONSTANCE BRENT

Show Booster

Dear AFRO:

On behalf of the C and P Telephone Company, we wish to thank you for the fine services we received at your annual Home and Cooking Exhibition.

I would appreciate it if you would extend my personal thanks to all those who helped make our job a little easier.

We are looking forward to participating in the years ahead.

ROLAND D. HENSON
Staff Assistant-Employment

Calls From Story

Dear AFRO:

I wish to express our sincere gratitude for the continuous effort which the AFRO makes toward helping us to communicate with the innercity community residents.

The able job which Sterling Paige did on our school project last Friday, a story accompanied by photos and including on-the-spot interviews, brought us 42 calls within three days. We still are getting six to eight calls daily about upcoming programs from people who state they saw the story in the AFRO.

Thank you very much for having permitted us to come to you so often to help us reach the people we are endeavoring to serve.

LLOYD McDONALD
Project Administrator
MRS. HARRIET STEINBERG,
Project Supervisor

Thank You, Too

Dear AFRO:

The M.S.P.A.A. wishes to express its sincere thanks and gratitude for your part in the recent Spring Convention held at Parkville Senior High School.

The advisers and students in attendance expressed their delight in the valuable contributions made by the various speakers and judges. I know personally that this reacion would not have been evident had your endeavors not been so successful.

I hope that I may feel free to call on you to help the Association in its future programs.

RICHARD G. ENSOR
PRESIDENT

Division Snare

Dear Afro:

There seems to be an effort by the opponents of Civil Rights to apply the age-old device, "divide and conquer."

They tried to use it in the Adam Powell affair without much success; so now they are using Dr. Martin Luther King's stand on the U.S. involment in Vietnam to do it.

I am hoping that the so called "colored leaders" will not be deceived and become ensnared in their traps.

MRS. BERDIE E. BROWN

Praise For Teacher

Dear AFRO:

The Baltimore City Department of Education has a teacher it can really be proud of — Mrs. Enid Osten, who demonstrated with ACTIVISTS for Fair Housing last week, to protest the discriminatory policies of Joseph Meyerhoff at his apartment development in Glen Burnie.

It is a disgraceful reflection on the Free State of Maryland that Mrs. Osten and her companions, who sought to further the ideal of racial equality that we teach our children, were rewarded by being arrested and jailed, while the perpetrators of racial discrimination are not only immune from legal prosecution but continue to prosper.

What impressions do her students get when they realize she was jailed for putting forth a real effort to achieve genuine democracy in this country?

Many more of us must support the struggle if open occupancy is to become a reality.

Many of the Forest Park High School faculty enthusiastically support Mrs. Osten's courageous stand. Let us hope that the administration does also.

MISS NORMA ROFFMAN
DAVID COHEN

A Wish For Mothers

Who ran to help me, when I fell,
And would some pretty story tell,
Or kiss the place to make it well?
My mother.

This tribute to her mother by Anne Taylor has universal application.

It is especially appropriate this week because Sunday is Mother's Day.

And to mothers the world over the AFRO extends a wish of health, happiness and long life.

Political Notebook

Gov. Agnew Sets Historic Pace

By MAX JOHNSON

Maryland's new Republican Gov. Spiro T. Agnew has started out in office like a chief executive bent on fighting within his powers, some obvious injustices in this state.

He has set a historic pace in this respect with some early notable appointments—bringing Maryland national favorable attention.

At the same time—the governor has jumped into the national GOP spotlight himself, as a bright new face of promise.

On May 25 he will round out just four months in office.

All of this is tickling no end top Republican brass, who are eyeing next year's Presidential election with increasing high hopes.

The Agnew pace in Maryland is helping to raise the GOP stock.

Of course—President Johnson and the Vietnam mess must be credited with an assist of some proportions.

Gov. Agnew stands alone, however, with his appointments.

Let's review briefly some of the more notable ones.

• • •

THE GOVERNOR began shortly after his inauguration—with a long look at the shaping of his office.

1. He named Dr. Gilbert Ware, assistant director of the Federal Program Division of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, as one of his six top-level program coordinators.

Dr. Ware became the first colored citizen to serve on a governor's staff in Maryland.

2. Dr. Ware then, through another first opening in the governor's office, selected Mrs. Gertrude B. McGowan as his secretary.

Mrs. McGowan was up to that time secretary to Hyman A. Pressman, city comptroller, and thus became the first of her race to serve on the governor's staff in a secretarian capacity.

She had the choice of working elsewhere on the staff.

3. Gov. Agnew then upset still another precedent by naming Elmer O. Harris as the first to integrate Baltimore's three-member Liquor Board.

Mr. Harris, veteran Republican leader and communications clerk with the Baltimore Transit and Traffic Co., began sitting this week in his $3,000 a year post on this board.

4. The governor renamed Marshall W. Jones Jr. to the three-member board of the city's Supervisors of Elections, but disappointed many of his supporters by not designating him as chairman.

Mr. Jones, a top GOP leader, had been first to integrate this board by appointment by the Democrats' Gov. J. Millard Tawes. He is now its veteran Republican member.

The governor's supporters felt he should have been named its chairman.

5. Gov. Agnew has just appointed Harry A. Cole as the second member of his race on Baltimore's Municipal Court.

Mr. Cole, a Republican, was the first of his race to serve as the state's assistant attorney general and first to integrate Maryland's Senate.

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HERE, THEN, is some of the pace Gov. Agnew has set in his short near four months in office.

Indications are strong that he has in mind still some other innovations to come soon.

• • •

THERE IS an old adage in politics that says it is unwise to praise highly a public officeholder during his early days—because he is likely to curtail his efforts and rest on his laurels.

These notable phases of the Agnew accomplishments have been reviewed here, fully mindful of the oft proved truism of this adage.

There is, however, another side to the thing.

Gov. Agnew is giving early indications of a political ambitious eye that is looking beyond the governorship.

A continued healthy Agnew pace would be an asset.

Besides—Sunday is Mother's Day.

If Gov. Agnew is to mother Maryland to top ranks in progressive states—somebody ought to give him a Mother's Day present.

That's all right, though—the governor can consider this an all inclusive one.

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 and prejudice, or compromise.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR. — 1920

Cromwell banquet set for June 1

A testimonial dinner honoring Stephen C. Cromwell, retiring June 1, as executive director of the Maryland Department of Employment Security, will be held Thursday, May 18, a a downtown Baltimore hotel.

More than 550 well-wishers from various Maryland communities, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania will gather to fete the man whose 30-year career parallels the history of a Federal State Agency integral to Maryland's economy.

The participants include not only associates and employees of the Department of Employment Security but an impressive list of friends prominent in government, management, labor and education circles and veterans' organizations.

Roland Anderson is 'newsboy of week'

"Those birds had better straighten up and fly right if they want to win the championship again this year."

That's the advice 15-year-old Roland Anderson has for the Baltimore Orioles.

Roland is this week's "AFRO Carrier of the Week."

He is an avid sports fan and a staunch supporter of the Orioles and the Baltimore Colts.

And after he graduates from Calverton Junior High School, where he is a ninth grade student, he is looking forward to a career as a professional football player.

Roland has been selling AFRO's for more than five years and the job of AFRO newsboy is not one that is new to the Anderson household.

Four of his five brothers have serviced AFRO subscribers.

• • •

"I SELL 235 papers each week," the neatly dressed carrier said.

"I like nice clothing and that is how I spend most of my money."

Roland said that he has developed a unique program for building his AFRO route.

"Whenever I sell a paper on the street, I ask the person if he would like to have the paper delivered to his home each week. That's how I build my route."

When he is not selling AFRO's or working out in a local gym, Roland likes to attend parties and dances.

He says that recently he has been thinking about going to college because he realize the importance of a college education.

"I really want to be a professional ball player," he said," but I think that I should spend a couple of years in college first."

"AFRO Newsboy of the Week," is the titled awarded each week by the AFRO's circulation department to an outstanding newsboy.

THIS WEEK'S CHUCKLE

FOOT IN THE MOUTH

"How's your wife?" the man asked an old friend he hadn't seen for years.

"She's in heaven," replied the friend.

"Oh, I'm sorry," Then he realized that was not the thing to say, she he added. "I mean, I'm glad." And that was even worse. He finally came out with, "Well, I'm surprised."

27 Morgan students face honor society citations

The Morgan State College Chapter of Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society will induct 27 seniors and juniors 3 p.m. Sunday in the Honors Room of the McKeldin Student Union.

This honor society is opened to students who have a B-plus or better average. Eight of the students are mathematics majors. There are two each from departments of chemistry, music, French, and business administration.

The rest come from sociology, pre-engineering, English, elementary education, geography, biology and physics.

The initiates are:

Reuben Arizmendi, Arlington, Md.; Phillip Berry, Delores Bobian, Christanla DeJesus, Cheryl Dorsey, all of Baltimore. Irene E. Ewell, Snow Hill, Md.; Charles Fields, Ronald Freeland, Beverly Grainger, Deborah Grier, Nancy Hairston, all of Baltimore.

Burney Hollis, Baltimore; Andrew Hunter, Pamplico, S.C.; Patricia Jenkins, Baltimore; Mildred Jennings, Houston, Tex.; Gloria Ladson, Philadelphia, Pa.; Jacqueline Martin, Baltimore; Mozell McCall, Newport News, Va.; Tama Myers, Phenius Perry, Barbara Shaver, all of Baltimore.

Grace Thomas, Princess Anne, Md.; Lawrence Tolson, Hughesville, Md.; Ted Walker, Baltimore; Rudolph Wallace, St. Thomas, V.I.; Vargas, Baltimore; Keith Baltimore.

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