APPLIANCES DIFFERENT; ROUTINES SAME

Summer coolness, winter warmth

The routines of everyday living were almost identical in Baltimore homes in the days of her youth, according to Mrs Bertha W. Proctor, and former schoolteacher.

This is how this senior citizen described those times:

In summer, the mother was concerned with keeping her family cool. This began with "spring housecleaning." The heavy rugs were replaced with straw matting. Bric-a-brac was packed away along with the pieces of silver plate usually displayed on the living room buffet.

* * *

PICTURES AND mirrors were covered with white mosquito netting (to keep off fly specks.) White slipcovers of a strictly utilitarian nature were placed on the furniture, and dark blue window shades replaced the white ones, and the lace curtains taken down.

The real "cooling" procedures was achieved by raising the windows a quarter way, lowering the window shades and "bowing" the outside shutters.

The homes' darkened interiors were surprisingly pleasant during the day. After dark, the residents often sat in the living room sipping lemonade, not bothering to put on the lights, but observing passers-by by the street lights.

Palm fans were found in every home. A favorite place to store them during the summer was usually behind the large gilt frame mirror over the living room mantle, or on the bottom shelf of a marble top table.

IN CONTRAST to the abbreviated, brightly colored clothing of today, Mrs. Proctor spoke of women's summer garments. They were mostly cotton and linen, but still high necked and long sleeved. Men wore mohair and Palm Beach suits, Panama hats and white canvas

People moved, walked, talked, and worked in an unhurried manner reflecting the trend of the times.

Summer was the time for "putting up." Mrs. Proctor explained the custom of canning, preserving and pickling foods and making jams, jellies and apple butter. The favorite subject a woman generally introduced in a conversation was the number of quarts of this or that food she "put up."

The marble or wooden steps were cleaned every day, and the sidewalk swept. The appearance of the front of a house, the freshness of the paint, the cleanliness of the windows, were indications of the habits of its residents.

IN THE fall the father saw to getting in the winter supply of coal and wood. Down went the heavy carpets, up went the freshly starched and stretched lace curtains, out came the bric-a-brac and off came the slipcovers.

The now seldom seen wooden coverers were painted and put over the marble steps. Every two or three years the brick fronts of the housing were given the usual coat of red paint.

Mrs. Procter said most families followed the weekly scheduled "Monday we washed. Tuesday we ironed. Wednesday we visited friends, taking custards, soups and puddings to the sick. Thursday and Friday were cleaning days.

MARKETING, DONE on Saturday, consumed a large portion of the day. A large number and variety of shops had to be visited to obtain all the foodstuffs required by the average family, a contrast to the one-stop shopping in today's supermarket.

The market basket was a symbol of substantial family living. The condition and size of the basket was thought to be an indicator of family status. People who carried shopping bags to market then, were thought by some, to be insecure and not as substantial as the "basket carriers."

Mrs. Proctor was one of those mothers who baked twice a week the loaves of bread served at most meals. Hot rolls were a regular part of Sunday morning breakfast. Cakes were baked an average of once a week, and huge batches of cookies were stored in lard cans.

A hungry child usually could find "something good" to eat in his own home.

Mothers often made their own candy, f dge s eing the favioriie. Homemade root beer and mead were stored in mason jars in the cellar.

* * *

MEALTIME WAS an important part of family life, said Mrs. Proctor. Every one sat at the table for meals. No one left home without a hot breakfast which included large servings of oat meal or cream of wheat.

The table was always set completely with dishes and napkins. Mrs. Proctor contrasted this scene with that in many modern homes where the youth is given to grabbing a sandwich, and literally "eating on the run."

Dinner was served when the father came home from work. He was the center of attention. Mother and father and children exchanged ideas and discussed the news of the day. Many a lesson in character has been taught at mealtime.

Families went to church together. They had picnics, went on boatrjdt, streetcar rides, band concerts, walks and visited friends.

* * *

IN MRS. Proctor's youth there was time for leisurely thoughtful conversation and letter writing. Most homes had a library of some size and reading was one of the favorite forms of recreation.

Mothers taught their daughters to sew, crochet, knit, and the intricacies of darning and mending and "making do," when new articles were not to be had.

These reflections bring pleasant memories to Mrs. Proctor. At a time when many of her friends have mellowed in retirement, she is rounding out her 30th year in real estate, being associated with J. Arnett Frisby.

Mrs. Proctor, who resides at 3502 Denison Rd., is the widow of the late William H. Proctor, a retired school principal and church worker.

She takes pride in her record of 61 ytars as a Sunday School teacher at Bethel AME Church, and her two sons, both at Morgan State College, William, as registrar; and Dr. Nathaniel Proctor, professor of biology.

* * *

Benjamin Banneker, scientist, constructed the first clock in America to strike by the hour. He was editor of an Almanac and one of the surveyors to lay out the District of Columbia.

Dr. Jackson is one-time AFRO carrier

Nationally known and cited as the dynamic Baltimore Branch NAACP president Dr. Lillie M. Jackson was once an AFRO newsgirl.

For 3 cents a copy she peddled the AFRO in Northwest Baltimore. This year when the AFRO marks its 75th birthday, "MA" Jackson, as she is affectionately known throughout the city, marked her 78th year May 25.

With the same energetic drive which has kept the Baltimore Branch NAACP among the top branches in the country, Dr. Jackson was effective and persuasive even as a newsie.

* * *

"WE CARROLLS sold 1,000 AFROs a week," she remembered. The "we" refers to Charles E. Carroll, her brother, a news dealer by trade; another brother, Osborne; and two sisters, Florence (Snowden) and Marian (Armstrong).

They were the children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Carroll.

"We collected for the daily papers and sold an AFRO to the same customer, using the slogan of Mr. John H. Murphy, founder, "If you want to know, read the AFRO," she related.

* * *

SEVERAL YEARS ago, Dr. Jackson was awarded an honorary degree of doctor of humanity by Morgan State College.

She reflected on the days of her youth when the family, the home, the church, the school, the YWCA and the YMCA were the centers of activities.

"What did young ladies do in those days?" Dr. Jackson was asked.

With her characteristic incisive frankness, the NAACP president replied, "For one thing, they kept their dresses at a decent length." She was indirectly expressing her disapproval of the abbreviated skirts.

SHE RECALLED, "We were taught to act like ladies. Fine women like Mrs. Martha E. Murphy, YWCA president, insisted that we walk, talk and demean ourselves at all times in a refined manner. We worked in the home, sharing household duties. We did church work, sang and recited on programs. The church, mainly, was our center of recreation."

Dr. Jackson, was a leading soprano on the choir of Sharp Street Methodist Church, where she is a lifetime member.

Concerts, church bazaars, and picnics and boat rides found whole families together.

Dr. Jackson is the mother of a son and three daughters, mcluding Mrs. Juanita J. Mitchell, attorney and state NAACP Conference president.

* * *

THE NAACP president recalls when a girl put her hair up, she became "Miss Jones," and the boy wearing his keenly awaited long trousers was addressed as "Mr. Jones." These were the outward symbols of maturity.

We looked to our elders for advice and inspiration Dr. Jackson stated. She felt her life had been greatly influenced by John H. Murphy, the AFRO founder. She lauds him as a "great citizen," a man of "wisdom and vision."

Throughout her life as a mother, wife, and civic worker, Dr. Jackson has tried to carry out those ideals set forth by three of her teachers: Heber Wharton, Drs. Joseph Lockerman, and J. N. Waring.

Dr. Jackson praised the quality of education in her youth. In reflecting she said, "We went to school to learn. Many school programs today have so many frills, there seems to be little of the basic education as we knew it.

"The 8th grade scholar was well qualified to serve as a substitute teacher. A fourth grade dropout had good training in the Three R's and was ready to take his place in the work world."

* * *

DR. JACKSON, wife of Kieffer Jackson, retired motion picture operator, recalled early AFRO days when all young people respected their elders, who told you right from wrong. If an older person told your parent of your disobedience, you were not questioned, you were punished.

This opined Dr. Jackson, was one reason why juvenile delinquency was no problem. There were no curfews as such, but the unwritten laws in most homes required the children to be in by 10 p.m.

Grace before meals, family prayers and Bible verses on Sunday were characteristic of many home routines.

* * *

THE NAACP PRESIDENT, says the AFRO founder aimed to make the AFRO a paper for the people. His son Carl followed in his footsteps, by speaking for the colored race, against wrong doing and for the equality of opportunities in all phases of American life.

It was Dr. Carl Murphy, then president of the AFRO-AMERICAN Company, who in 1935 called together 14 leading citizens to revive the Baltimore Branch NAACP. The only living founders of that group are Dr. Jackson

(Continued on page 15)

The 'Clean Block Lady': a Baltimore institution

By ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

The AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper Clean Block Campaign established the summer of 1934 transformed many Baltimore blocks almost overnight into beautiful scenes.

Word soon spread all over America and tourists passing through noticed marble steps gleaming white row on row were set off by blooming flowers.

The founder and director, Miss Francis L. Murphy, began to receive letters from Canada, and various states in the union, "Tell us about the AFRO's Clean Block Campaign that has made Baltimore lovely in summer," they said.

The story of how Miss Murphy, the daughter of the AFRO founder, John H. Murphy Sr., started the beautification effort has become legendary.

Today in 1967, nine years after her death in 1958, it is still an integral part of the 33-year-old annual clean-up drive.

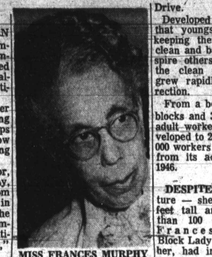
Miss Murphy was born in 1874 in Baltimore, one of the five daughters and five sons of Mr. and Mrs. Murphy.

She died in 1958.

* * *

AT THE age of 60, she retired after 39 years as teacher in Baltimore Public schools.

She was one of 11 graduates of the high school class



MISS FRANCES MURPHY

of 1894, and became what was known as "a floating teacher" in 1895.

During her career, she gained prominence as an exacting and loved teacher and later 'heory instructor of education in what is now known as the Coppin State Teachers' College.

Miss Murphy lived by the formula that there was much to be done. "I can't sit down idly and watch things which need to be done and do nothing about it," she once said.

* * *

SO, A year after her retirement from a long and illustrious career in the classroom, she consented to direct the AFRO's Clean Block Drive.

Developed with the idea that youngsters engaged in keeping their neighborhoods clean and beautiful would inspire others to do likewise, the clean block movement grew rapidly under her direction.

From a beginning of a few blocks and 3,880 children and adult workers in 1934, it developed to 239 blocks and 20,000 workers when she retired from its active direction in 1946.

* * *

DESPITE HER small stature — she was barely five feet tall and weighed less than 100 pounds — Miss Frances, or the "Clean Block Lady," as many called her, had indefatigable energy.

It was not unusual for her to visit every block in the campaign. She knew the children, and adult workers, hundreds of them, by name. She loved them and they loved her.

If a block leader reported non-cooperation by city sanitation truck or by another resident — she was quick to go to the person concerned and explain the problem. Usually, after these conferences she had made another friend and worker.

When she retired in 1946, she could point with pride to the blocks and children enrolled, and to the fact that the city had supported the AFRO plan and participated in the drive as it is doing today.

Even after retirement, she was until her last days a contributor of ideas and suggestions, not only for the clean block movement but for city improvements as well.

Miss Murphy was succeeded by the late Mrs. Francis Mackay, who continued the vigorous campaign until her death, 1962.

Under the current direction of Mrs. Jeannette B. Leath, the AFRO Clean Block Campaign has grown in scope and popularity.

That is why the "Clean Block Lady" has become an institution in Baltimore.

Dr. Julian:—

Congratulations to the AFRO-AMERICAN for 75 years of noteworthy and distinguished service in our community.

It has served to enlighten us in many areas on subjects pertinent to our existence as a people — which information we ofttimes otherwise would not have received.

Under the courageous and dynamic leadership of the late Dr. Carl Murphy, it helped to provide the impetus and thrust in our ever present struggle for equality and a true spot in the sunlight of America.

Baltimore has been fortunate and should be forever grateful for this newspaper. — Dr. Emerson R. Julian, Baltimore.

Ira Aldridge, born in Bel Air, Md., was a distinguished colored actor, who finally made his home in London and was knighted by the ruler of England.

Does Coca-Cola have the taste you never get tired of?

Is it always refreshing?

Do things go better with Coke after Coke after Coke?

"Ask schoolteacher Shirley Hasley. Let her tell you. Write: Mrs. Shirley Hasley, P.O. Box 2867, San Francisco, Calif. 94126"

"TRADE-MARK GRAY COAT DESIGN AND SILHOUETTE TRADE-MARK WHICH IDENTIFIES ONLY THE PRODUCT OF THE COCA-COLA COMPANY"

You know it. It's your best refreshment buy.

Bottled under the authority of The Coca-Cola Company by: THE PEOPLE IN YOUR TOWN WHO BRING YOU COCA-COLA

We Are Happy To Salute

THE PUBLISHERS OF THE AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

AS YOU CELEBRATE SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS CHAUFFEURS WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS OF AMERICA

I. B. OF T. C. W. & H. OF A.

Unprecedented number sit in state's General Assembly

By MAX JOHNSON

In 1954, voters in Baltimore's 4th Legislative District elected the first colored representatives to Maryland's General Assembly — a senator and two House of Delegates members.

The precedent-setting lawmakers were Sen. Harry A. Cole, then an attorney and now a city Municipal Court judge; and Delegates Truly Hatchett, a realtor, and Emory R. Cole, attorney.

Both of the Coles were Republicans and Mr. Hatchett a Democrat.

The two subsequent Assembly memberships also have had a senator and first two then three House of Delegates members to integrate that body — all from the same district.

Now 13 years after the initial integration, there are an unprecedented 11 colored members of the new General Assembly which took office in January.

The new makeup includes two senators and 9 House members, and for the first time representation from Baltimore's 2nd District and two of the state's 23 counties.

They are:

Senators Verda F. Welcome and Clarence M. Mitchell 3rd (both D. 4th Balto.), Delegates Victorine Q. Adams, Lena K. Lee, Troy Bradley, Isaiah Dixon Jr., Calvin Douglass (all 4th D. Balto.); Joseph A. Chester, Floyd B. Adams (both D. 2nd Balto.), Aris T. Allen (R. Anne Arundel), Arthur A. King (D. Prince Georges).

All will serve four-year terms through 1970.

MARYLAND'S ENACTMENT of reapportionment — the one man one vote concept — made much of this record representation possible.

Another big factor was the almost continuous register to vote campaigns by the NAACP, churches and civic interest groups.

One result is that in Baltimore colored eligible voters now form slightly over 36 percent of the city's total on the books.

Sen. Cole and Delegates Hatchett and Cole elected in 1954 were followed in 1958 by Sen. Alvin J. Jones, and Mesdames Irma G. Dixon and Welcome to the House of Delegates.

In the 1962 election, Mrs. Welcome moved up to the Senate and Mrs. Dixon was joined in the House by Ernest D. Young and the now Sen. Mitchell.

Mrs. Dixon died in office in 1965.

She and Mrs. Welcome were the first two women of their race to sit in Maryland's General Assembly.

Mrs. Welcome is now one of four women in the Senate.

Louis Martin:—

"I am honored and delighted to salute the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers on their 75th Anniversary. You have been pioneers and trail blazers among American colored people.

Newspaper publishing has never been easy and not many survive that long span of time.

Therefore, may I express my sincere congratulations upon your great achievements and my thanks for all the support you have given me.

I am confident of success on the days ahead for all your efforts to better the life and extend the freedom of all citizens of our democracy."

LOUIS MARTIN,
Deputy Chairman
Democratic Naitonal Committee

Cliff Alexander recalls our high tradition:—

I am pleased to congratulate the entire AFRO family on your 75th Anniversary.

Your service to our community has been in the highest tradition of professional journalism.

Your paper has served to move the conscience of America for the last three-quarters of a century.

In these difficult, complex times, you continue in the high tradition you have established.

Those of us who have had the opportunity of working with your fine staff are the wiser for it.

With warm good wishes for your continued success. — CLIFFORD L. ALEXANDER JR., White House assistant

Hyman Pressman:—

As Comptroller of the City of Baltimore, and personally, I welcome this opportunity to extend congratulations and best wishes to the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers on the occasion of their 75th Anniversary.

However, when we reflect upon the important role the AFRO has taken for good government and the welfare of our community, we can rejoice that the Almighty has truly blessed your labors during these many years. — HYMAN A. PRESSMAN, Comptroller of Baltimore.

Mrs. Datcher young at 67

Who says a person is old at seventy-five? Not Mrs. Dora Datcher, of 221 N. Fremont Ave.

Although she was born on August 20, 1891, she is as active and energetic as a younger person.

Born in Frederick, she is a widow. Mrs. Datcher was married to James M. Datcher for only 11 years. She is the mother of five. Three living sons are:

John A. Datcher, vice principal, School No. 145; Griffin Datcher, contractor and painter; and James Datcher, shoe repairman.

Mrs. Datcher has been a school teacher, a stenographer and girl Friday, among other jobs.

"I GO bowling and belong to a senior citizen's club. I take clarinet lessons . . . go to dancing classes and do arts and crafts," she says proudly.

She formed a bowling league for senior citizens They bowl every Monday at Fair Lanes on Howard St., the spry grandmother reports.

"Clarinet is my hobby," she explained. "I picked up my sons's clarinet when he went into the army . . . I can play tunes and read music pretty well," she continues.

Mrs. Datcher would like to start a band of senior citizens made up of those who like music and who have had musical experience.

"My children laugh at me, but . . . I'm doing just what I want to do," Mrs. Datcher smiled.

She is proud of a project she undertook two summers ago. Many children in her neighborhood had never been to Bible School before she reported.

She organized a group of them and walked 7 blocks to Metropolitan Methodist Church, where she has been a member for over 20 years, Mrs. Datcher declared.

SOME OF the children were too young to make the trek, so Mrs. Datcher and a friend started their own Bible School in her apartment, she remembered.

Classes became so large that the manager of her building gave her a large room in which to hold classes...

"I really got a kick out of that," she laughed. "It's the working with young people that has kept me going."

A YOUNG 75 — Mrs. Dora Datcher demonstrates she is a young 75 (Aug. 20) by blowingout a few hot licks on her clarinet. In addition to taking clarinet she bowls, attends dancing classes, and takes part in arts and crafts.

AFRO IN VIETNAM

The AFRO's Michael Davis is currently covering activities of U.S. servicemen and women in Vietnam. Through the years, the AFRO has sent staff people to war zones to report first hand what our troops are doing.

Ollie Stewart, now special writer in Paris, covered the North African invasion in 1942. Art Carter, now managing editor, was also there in 1942. Max Johnson, now political reporter in Baltimore, covered activities in Italy and France in 1944. Vincent Tubbs and Francis Yancey were in the Southwest Pacific in 1943-44. Mrs. Elizabeth Murphy Moss was in England in 1944. Jimmy Hicks and Ralph Matthews covered Korea in 1953. In the early 30's and 40's, the late William N. Jones, city editor, was in Africa, Russia and France. During World War I, he covered our troops' activities for the AFRO.

More new faces seen in Council

AFRO Political Analyst

The municipal election this fall is expected to bring more than the present two colored members in Baltimore's City Council.

The boundaries of the city's six councilmanic districts have recently been realigned to give citizens more equitable representation.

This new realignment has also brought more strength to the colored vote in the 2nd, 4th and 5th Districts.

Eligible colored voters form 45 percent of the total in the 2nd District, 73 percent for a high majority in the 4th, and 35 percent to hold the balance of power in the 5th District.

In the 1st District these voters form a low 11 percent, in the 3rd a still lower 7 percent and in the 6th District they are 21 percent of the total eligible voters.

Such is the picture as the city prepares to elect a mayor, president of the City Council and councilmen this fall.

Each of the city's six districts has an allotment of three City Council seats.

Councilmen Walter T. Dixon and Henry G. Parks Jr., both representing the 4th District, are the lone representatives of their race in the Council now.

* * *

THE HIGH majority of colored voters in the 4th District is almost certain to result in the election of three councilmen of the race this fall.

The 45 percent voting strength in the politically awakened 2nd District is expected to send one and quite possibly two such representatives to the new Council also.

There is the possibility, too, that a member of the race might be elected from the 5th District, should a concentrated campaign be conducted.

There are highly qualified candidates running in all of these districts.

The 6th District, with its 21 percent voting strength, has one colored candidate. The 3rd District also has one.

There are colored candidates on both Democratic and Republican city-wide slates for president of the City Council and one is running for comptroller.

The Council, however, is seen as the key in this election.

More colored representation and new councilmen sympathetic with the needs of the city in terms of better race relations and opportunities are the factors in bettering the city — regardless of whom is elected mayor, president of the Council or comptroller.

* * *

THE HISTORY of colored councilmen in Baltimore reflects the results of election system changes and gerrymandering.

From 1891 to 1931, a 40-year period, six colored men saw service in the Council.

There were only 10 years of that 40-year period during which no colored men were in the Council.

During those days, Council elections were held by wards.

A drawing of councilmanic districts followed and an obvious gerrymandering move to split the strength of colored voters.

As a result, no colored councilmen were elected from 1931 until 1955 when Mr. Dixon won office — a 24-year period.

Here is the history of colored city councilmen in Baltimore.

It will be noted that the periods 1919-23 and 1927-31 two colored councilmen served together.

The listing follows:

Harry S. Cummings — 1891 to 1892.

Dr. J. Marcus Cargill — 1895 to 1897.

Harry S. Cummings — 1897 to 1898.

Hiram Watty — 1899 to 1907.

Harry S. Cummings — 1907 to 1919.

William L. Fitzgerald — 1919 to 1923.

Warner McGuinn — 1919 to 1923.

Walter Emerson — 1927 to 1931.

Warner McGuinn — 1927 to 1931.

Walter Dixon — 1955 to (?).

Henry G. Parks Jr. — 1963 to (?).

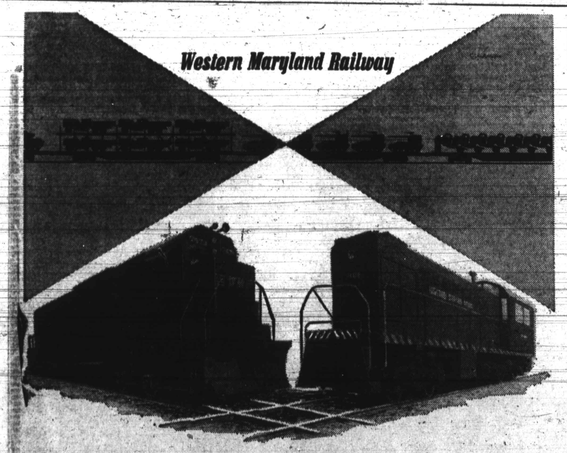
* * *

In 1921, the school was moved to Pennsylvania Ave. and Dolphin St. In 1923 the name was changed to Frederick Douglass High School in honor of Maryland's greatest statesman.

* * *

In 1924 the school moved to Calhoun and Baker Sts. to what was then considered "the last word in modern buildings."

Western Maryland Railway



YOUR PARTNER IN LOGISTICS

Whether it be for the Military or Industry, Western Maryland Railway's transportation service is your efficient distribution link in the United States and for overseas commitments.

When programming shipments, every port in the world is readily accessible through the flexibility of movement when using the Western Maryland marine terminal in Baltimore (150 miles closer to the Mid-West than any other seaport on the North Atlantic Coast).

Western Maryland has many rapid freight interchanges with railroads across the nation, a fast growing container service, and an efficient marine terminal that assures the shipper a single route operation offering maximum market distribution.

Call us for ALL of your transportation requirements!

WM WESTERN MARYLAND RAILWAY

Western Maryland Railway • Gateway to the Nation

OFFICES: We have offices in Atlanta, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Reading, St. Louis, San Francisco, or you may contact our Vice President of Sales in Baltimore, Maryland.

Opus Opificem Probat

Means the work proves the workman. It applies in a very real way to the craftsmen in our plant. A TRIAL WILL CONVINCE YOU

The ART LITHO CO.
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND