61st YEAR banquet in May was a stellar occasion for the DuBois Circle, one of Baltimore's oldest clubs.

Left to right are Mrs. Robert Myers, treasurer; Miss Edna Brown, recording secretary; Sister Cleophus, president, Mount Saint Agnes College, guest speaker.

DuBois Circle, age 61, has rich heritage in city

The DuBois Circle, organized Jan. 5, 1906, is one of Baltimore's oldest clubs and bears the name of the famed author and scholar, the late Dr. W. E. B. DuBois.

For 61 consecutive years the organization has devoted its time to serious consideration of literature, cultural studies and civic subjects with accent on the colored citizen in American life.

Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month from October to May. Membership is limited to 30 persons.

THE MAY, 1967 closing meeting was a noteworthy affair at the Sheraton-Belvedere Hotel with Sister Cleophus, president of Mount St. Agnes College guest speaker.

Present officers are Mesdames Kelly Jackson, president; Carl Murphy, vice-president; Robert Myers, treasurer; Ardella Campbell, historian; Misses Edna Brown, recording secretary; Elizabeth Carr (deceased) corresponding secretary.

On the executive committee are Mesdames Robert Lee, chairman, I. Bradshaw Higgins, Charles Key and Edgar Love.

Other members are Mesdames John Berry, Marshall Bright, Garland Chisell, Shelton Coles, Arnett Frisby, Alonzo Hairston, Mason Hawkins, Paul Henderson, Ethel Hodges, Howard Hucles, Martin Jenkins, Saul Purdue, MacKinley Reesby, Ralph Smith, Waters Turpin, Wilbur Valentine, Misses Josephine Lansey, Estelle Lee and Marion Reid.

B. A. Cephas, Jr.:—

Your 75 years of continuous service as a newspaper publisher warrants congratulations. I am happy to join others with congratulations to you and wish you many many more successful years.

B. A. CEPHAS JR.
City Councilman,
Richmond

George E. C. Hayes:—

Birthdays are always happy occasions for institutions such as yours when to simply growing old there can be added the additional factors of growing better and becoming more valuable to the community.

Our office has been highly privileged to represent you in this area over a long period of years.

We can personally attest to the integrity of your management and to your dedication to public welfare.

We bespeak for you continued years of success and a full realization of your highest aims.

GEORGE E. C. HAYES,
Attorney
COBB, HOWARD, HAYES, WINDSOR AND DUCAS

W. Mundle:—

For your 75 years of dedicated service, we offer our sincere congratulations and best wishes during the weeks, months and years to come.

WINFRED MUNDLE,
Vice Mayor of Richmond

AFRO and Sharon Baptist histories are entwined

A glance backward 82 years ago who Sharon Baptist Church was founded and the Rev. William M. Alexander became the first pastor is significant.

This was the era when the AFRO was founded.

A look at the history of the church and the minister not only show the humble beginnings of the two Maryland institutions but other points of note.

The era during which the AFRO and Sharon came into being found Baltimore's colored citizens striving for businesses, schools and churches from which they might derive benefits as a group.

Racial discrimination and deprivation faced them in religious life, in education and everywhere stood in the way of progress.

The story of Sharon Baptist Church and its pastor is an example of "overcoming," of "reaching out" of "traveling on."

Sharon Baptist Church, now located at Stricker and Pressman Sts., the Rev. James L. Moore, pastor, was organized in 1882 and celebrated its 75th Anniversary in 1960, seven years ahead of the AFRO.

* * *

THE DATE the unusual history actually begins is Sunday, Sept. 10, 1882, when a Mr. T. A. Johnson, member of Macedonia Baptist Church, was taking his customary stroll after morning services.

Coming up Parrish St., he noted children playing on an empty lot and became concerned about their apparent lack of religious and moral training.

The following Sunday, Sept. 17, Mr. Johnson returned to Parrish St. accompanied by the Rev. Charles Lawson, the Macedonia pastor and members, Dock Allen, Louis Major and Mrs. Eva Thompkins.

As the result of their observations and the conferences that followed, they enlisted the aid of more people and organized a Sunday school for the children.

Those who joined the effort were James Davis, James Lane, Mesdames Boone, Millie Davis and Martha Page.

As time went by, the Sunday school became Whatcoat Mission so named because of the meeting place — an abandoned horse stable on Whatcoat St.

* * *

IT WAS now 1885. The Rev. William M. Alexander was a state missionary.

When he noticed the Whatcoat Mission thriving there valiantly in the horse stable, he joined the small band.

On Feb. 5, 1885, he and the nine adults organized the mission into a church.

In a short while, the Rev. Mr. Alexander became the first pastor.

A born organizer, he was soon able to get the church out of the stable and into a building at Laurens St. (then Patterson Ave.) and Calhoun St.

The building was purchased from Fuller Memorial Baptist Church congregation for $4,000 and Whatcoat Mission was changed name to Patterson Avenue Chapel.

Ever-increasing membership-under the Rev. Mr. Alexander's leadership caused the Patterson Church to move again in 1900 to Pressman and Carey Sts. to a $12,000 building.

Accompanied by a second change in name, the church became Sharon Baptist Church officially established in the constitution of 1901, prepared by the Rev. Mr. Alexander, Deacons Fountain Gaines and David Penn, Dr. William H. Wright and William Reavis.

The present location at Stricker and Pressman Sts. was purchased in 1914 for $33,000.

* * *

HOWEVER, between 1890 and 1900 the Rev. Mr. Alexander had made several other strides ahead for colored citizens.

At Sharon he had organized the first school for the children of Westside Baltimore. Many years later as a tribute to his small school, Elementary School No. 112 at Calhoun and Laurens St. was officially named the William M. Alexander School.

Also during the years he was expanding the influence of Sharon Baptist Church, the Rev. Mr. Alexander not only planted the seeds for the AFRO but he also took over the top executive position in the Northwest Baltimore Colored League and then became the chief supporter of the Northwest Supply Company.

These posts enabled him to further develop the printing plant and the provision store the groups owned.

He then became editor and manager of the Maryland Voice, a denominational newspaper.

He was an original member of the Brotherhood of Liberty which opened the way for colored lawyers to practice at the bar and for colored children to have colored teachers.

In 1906 the Rev. Mr. Alexander assisted in the organization of the Peoples Fraternal and Beneficial Society which later became The Southern Life Insurance Co. well remembered today through its longtime president, the late Dr. Willard W. Allen.

He also helped organize the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention and served as secretary-treasurer until his death. Because of his outstanding missionary work, the William M. Alexander Mission in Liberia bears his name.

The Rev. Mr. Alexander died in March, 1919, and was followed at Sharon by his chosen successor, the Rev. Joseph L. Raul Jr.:—

It is a very real pleasure to send greetings to the AFRO on its 75th birthday because so much of my life has been intertwined with yours.

From the days back in the 1940s when we picketed the segregated National Theater to the days of the 1960's when Beal Elliott who had become affiliated with Sharon in 1916.

Becoming the second pastor in 1919 he served a total of 25 years until his death Sept. 28, 1944.

The Rev. James L. Moore was chosen pastor March 25, 1945. At this point Sharon entered a new era of progress equally significant as the one of the Rev. Mr. Alexander.

And, after nearly a quarter of a century more Sharon's leadership is still felt in Baltimore.

James Pinkney, 75, AFRO reader 62 years

"Read, read, read," and "Early to bed, early to rise ..." is the formula used by 75 year old James Pinkney, 1036 Arlington Ave.

He gets up at 4 a.m. daily, and never goes to bed later than 9 p.m., he said.

According to his wife, Mrs. Mary E. Pinkney, to whom he has been married for 40 years, Mr. Pinkney subscribes to many newspapers.

* * *

"He just reads all the papers," she said. Mr. Pinkney has been reading the AFRO since 1905.

He has been a member of Metropolitan Baptist Church for many years. Before his retirement he worked as a longshoreman.

Mr. Pinkney was born on May 29, 1892 to Mr. and Mrs. James (Mary) Pinkney.

* * *

Of seven children, the Pinkneys have one living son James Jr. They are grandparents 12 times, and great-grandparents four times.

Mr. Pinkney is fond of his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He also enjoys playing cards, especially pinochle.

"I always worked hard and I have always gotten my rest," he said, giving his formula for a long and healthful life.

Delver women:—

The Officers and members of the Delver Woman's Club, Inc. salute the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers on the occasion of their Diamond Jubilee.

We appreciate your cooperation through the years by contributing to better communications with the people on local, state, national and international scales.

You have helped us carry out our motto of 'Lifting As We Climb.' Best wishes for your continued success.

MRS. MOZELLE SALLEE,
President,
Delver Woman's Club

Aug. 23, 1796 — The African Methodist Episcopal Church, founded by Richard Allen, was incorporated, under Pennsylvania state laws.

Governor Godwin:—

To have reached the three-quarter century mark is a major accomplishment for a newspaper publication and a credit, not only to the American tradition of a free press, but to the staff and management of a publication which manages to survive in the competitive newspaper world of our day.

MILLS E. GODWIN Jr.
Governor of Virginia

'Outspoken,' say Bonds:—

Your newspaper has taken the leadership and has promoted liberal ideas, even when it was not popular.

Your greatest satisfaction and most rewarding sense of achievement has come, we believe, from the knowledge that in the 'AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers you have created something that will enrich the lives of your fellow men — something that they wanted and needed.

It is here in this productive sector of our society that the food is grown, the products made, and the war on poverty is being waged. It is here that we generate the resources which make possible the social, cultural, and intellectual advances that all of us seek.

* * *

The AFRO-AMERICAN serves as an outspoken mouthpiece to deal with truth and justice. Not as a symbol or token of racism, but rather as a direct and forthright beacon to express the point of view of colored America and the civil rights movement.

* * *

The AFRO-AMERICAN has a unique place in today's journalistic world. It has the respect of the readers of our neighborhoods. Its timely articles disseminate information that is political, economic, and social. Its contents help us cope with the 20th century.

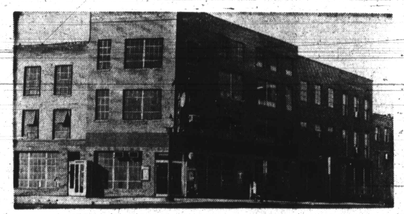
Hearty congratulations on the 75th Anniversary of the AFRO.

MR. AND MRS.
J. PERCY BOND

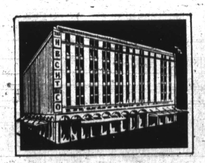
congratulations to the

Baltimore Afro-American

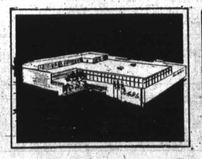
newspapers on your 75th anniversary



628 N. Eutaw Street



DOWNTOWN



NORTHWOOD

EDMONDSON

REISTERSTOWN ROAD

The Hecht Co.
ALL 4 STORES, OF COURSE

...a Baltimore landmark for 110 years

MRS. COASEY RELIVES OLD BALTIMORE

GRACIOUS LIVING —Mrs. Mattie B. Coasey, who gives a vivid account of gracious living in old Baltimore, admired portrait of Bishop Richard Allen, founder of the AME Church. The painting and one of her brother-in-law, Bishop Monroe H. Davis, at the 71st commencement of Kittrell Junior College.

Reflecting on her life, Mrs. Mattie B. Coasey, well-known church and civic worker, lauds the AFRO on its 75th birthday for "meeting the needs of the public, championing worthy causes, and helping to influence the moral, intellectual religious and political standards of the race."

Mrs. Coasey, admittedly a septuagenarian, declines to divulge her exact age, but agrees it parallels closely the age of the AFRO now marking its 75th Anniversary.

The AFRO helped her become a part of the life of Baltimore, she says. Mrs. Coasey came to this city in 1922 with her husband, the late Dr. John R. Coasey. For many years they lived at 753 George St.

* * *

MRS. COASEY says not only did she learn the current news and happenings from the pages of the AFRO, but she perused every page, advertisement, birth and death notice, weddings and other social items.

Also news of entertainment, musical and sporting events, newcomers to the city, the endorsement of men and measures affecting good government and better living conditions.

The AFRO became a part of her life.

This doctor's wife became active in St. John AME Church, then located in the 1100 block of W. Lexington St. and the Druid Branch YWCA, and in the building purchased at Druid Hill Ave. and Dolphin St., when the organization's president was Mrs. Martha Murphy, wife of John H. Murphy Sr., AFRO founder.

IN Y WORK, Mrs. Coasey was affiliated with Mesdames Veola Coleman, Bertha Proctor, Mason Hawkins, Augusta Chiswell, Minnie Gaines, Bertha K. Hurst, Cora M. Hitchens, Erma Davis, Edith Reid, M. Gilbert and Mrs. Laura Wheatley.

Her associates in the work of the AME Church included Mesdames Mary Handy, president; Bertha K. Hurst, treasurer; and Clara Harris, secretary and historian of the Women's Missionary Society.

She recalls the spectacular accomplishment of the late Bishop Sampson L. Brooks, who raised $35,000 to free Bethel AME Church from indebtedness.

Bishop Brooks was brought to Baltimore by John H. Murphy Sr., the AFRO founder.

* * *

MRS. COASEY'S interest in church work is understandable. She was the fifth of eight children of the late AME Bishop and Mrs. W. W. (Mary Glean) Becket of South Carolina.

Her early life was spent on the campus of Clark University and Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, where her father was a student at the latter school.

As a minister's daughter, her home was frequently shaped, and her schooling interrupted. She attended private school of the Congregational Church in Charleston, S.C., Claflin University and graduated from Avery Normal Institute, and later attended night school, completing a business course.

At Gammon, Mrs. Coasey remembers Professors Parks and Cragman, faculty members whose interests were expanded to include the supervision and direction of the social and religious lives of the married students.

* * *

MODESTY IN dress and decorum, the respect of elders and obedience of parents, and the desire for knowledge were characteristic of many of the people of Mrs. Coasey's early life, she remembers.

Parental knowledge and approval of their girl's male associates were required by concerned families. Standards of the day were literally formalized.

At 12 a girl's dress was lengthened to the tops of her high buttoned shoes. At 16 dress hems came down to the ankle, and at this age, she was eligible for "company," male callers who visited, not more than twice weekly.

Smoking and drinking by women was all but unheard of in families of refinement. "Mild forms of dancing," calisthenics, croquet, basketball and "taking walks" were other recreational activities.

Courting, Mrs. Coasey explains, in addition to the young men's visits, included warm love letters, replete with poetry. Ribbon banded and carefully hoarded they became treasured keepsakes, treasured throughout married life.

* * *

THE NATURAL look of a woman's hair was a matter of necessity, not a fashionable choice, she recalls. Long hair was the style. It was washed, oiled, given the well-known 100 brush strokes at night and carefully braided.

Some southern women considered the process of straightening the hair a sign of inferiority ... a passing fad.

Mrs. Coasey has lived through the era when parents began to yield to their children's demands for less strict discipline, more freedom, and the girls became more college-minded.

* * *

EARLY MARRIAGE was encouraged until schooling was completed. A higher education became the standard and family sizes decreased. Woman's ambition was no longer to be ideal housewives and mothers of large families.

With the popularity of the typewriter, women began to find jobs in offices. In the expanding area of industrialization they left domestic jobs to become factory workers. By the days of World War II they became a large segment of the working force.

Maids and baby sitters replaced the working mothers, and at the earliest possible moment, babies were placed in day nurseries by mothers on their way to work.

As she reflected on these changes, Mrs. Coasey laments the changed attitude of the working mother. Out of necessity she had become obsessed with the earning of her own money, becoming more independent in the process, and often falling far short of the love-honor-and-obey standards of her marriage vows.

IN 1922 the late Bishop Monroe H. Davis, brother-in-law of Mrs. Coasey, sent Dr. Coasey an AFRO clipping noting that Baltimore had only 75 colored doctors for 150,000 colored residents.

This stimulated Dr. Coasey to consider the possibility of establishing a practice here.

He succeeded in interesting the five other fellow interns at the Nacirema Club, WW Mudget Private Hospital in Philadelphia. As a result there came to Baltimore, in addition to Dr. Coasey, Drs. W. F. Noville, J. W. Hines, William Richmond, C. M. Lawrence and James Bell.

Soon they were joined by Drs. Robert L. Jackson, M. L. Barksdale, W. T. Gunn and Casper Pigott.

* * *

MRS. COASEY, now a widow, resides at 2802 Roslyn Ave. with a niece, Mrs. Milburn Davis Brown. She is a member of Davis Memorial AME Church.

She is still affiliated with the National Council of Negro Women, having been its first local president.

Other affiliations included Eastern Star and the Doctor's Wives Auxiliary.

In recent years much of Mrs. Coasey's time has been devoted to studying the history of colored women and their contributions to racial uplift.

Commenting on this aspect Mrs. Coasey explained, "The majority of women in our early history were untrained, but were blessed with common sense.

"I have never seen in our history, where a social snob contributed anything to the advancement of better womenhood.

"It does not take a lot of brains to snub and make people uncomfortable." She feels it would be more desirable to "try to be pleasing and cordial, to let people feel that you are interested in their welfare."

She counsels further, "Get out of the groove of your own little social set. Forget self, and get caught up in the job of helping others."

* * *

MRS. COASEY appreciates and enjoys many modern advancements, but she expresses the hope that "as history repeats itself, families will return to Bible reading, daily prayers, Sunday School and church attendance;

"people's relationships will be more wholesome and lasting, and that joy and tranquility will return to the home."

Congratulations
To The
AFRO-AMERICAN
NEWSPAPERS
On Their
75th Anniversary
Night 542-2262 - Day WL 7-8778
Williams Funeral Home
Limousines for all occasions
Expedient Service 24 Hours
CHARLES H. POWELL
FUNERAL DIRECTOR and EMBALMER
319-21-23 N. SCHROEDER ST.
BALTIMORE, MD. 21223

Mrs. Smith, 75, must have her AFRO

HER SECRET — Mrs. Maggie Smith, who marked her 75th birthday May 30, enjoys good health and does her own washing, ironing, cooking, and housework. Her secret: Avid Bible reading.

J. J. Curran, Jr.

The AFRO has been a credit and an asset to Baltimore City, and I do extend sincere wishes for a most successful Diamond Jubilee.

Very truly yours,
J. Joseph Curran, Jr.,
State Senator
3rd District

HORSE CAR used in the early 1900's was the first conveyance instituted to take pedestrians "off their feet" or out of their own buggies and wagons.

AIR CONDITIONED BUS used in 1967 as the AFRO marked its 75th Diamond Anniversary carries 51 passengers in comfort.

In Acknowledgement

John Murphy knew, oh so well
That those who had survived a marathon of hardships
Could reshape the grotesque face of dispair
Could redistribute the molicular chemistry of bias.

* * *

John Murphy took up the pen and printers ink
This was more gallant than a sword,
But if he onyl was alive today,
He could survey a world of new perspective.

* * *

It was a long time ago, when newsboys stood beneath gaslights,
And distributed the Afro on cobblestone streets
But the Afro was John Murphy's dream
And Baltimore was John Murphy's town.

* * *

Great men leave their names behind, and deeds behind,
And we that will, may explore all that's conciveable,
We bless that old pains, an dpraise the old foot paths,
And seek new truths, and fabricate vast highways.

* * *

And as the new and modern persses keep their rapid tempo,
Unlike the ancient craft of 1892,
I am sure that John Murphy surveys, how his dream materialized,
And a vast empire that reaches out in the infinitude of integirty.—Paul D. McAllister.

Prince Hall Masons:—

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. and A.M. State of Maryland and Jurisdiction salutes the AFRO American Newspapers on this, its occasion of their 75th Anniversary.

The AFRO - AMERICAN Newspapers have served the colored Community and Country at large, when no other media dare print articles and information of the history of the progress Negroes were making.

We are also very grateful that men in the AFRO-AMERICAN corporation were great Masons, such as the late John H. Murphy, Sr., the founder, Dr. Carl Murphy and John H. Murphy, Jr., dedicated Masons.

Prince Hall Masons throughout the United States join me at this time in saluting a paper that has built Daniels, Grand ¼%} sst such a heritage. SAMUEL T. DANIELS, GRAND MASTER.

Aided progress, Richmond mayor:—

The amazing growth of the AFRO-AMERICAN over the past three-fourths of a century is isdisputable proof that you have met well the obligations, the responsibilities and the opportunities of a dominant colored newspaper.

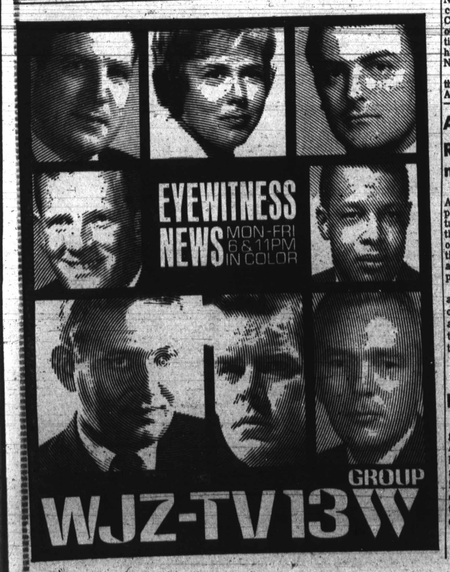
You have participated in and aided the great progress of the race over these years, and you look forward to active partnership in its continuing progress.

MORRILL M. CROWE,
Mayor of Richmond

Dr. H. I. Willett:—

I wish to offer congratulations to the AFRO-AMERICAN Company on its Diamond Jubilee celebration and to express the hope that it will continue to expand its constructive interpretation of the school program to the community.

DR. H. I. WILLETT,
Superintendent,
Richmond Public Schools



COVINGTON'S

The Best In... SEAFOOD
STEAMED CRABS $1.50 DOZ. UP
• CRAB CAKES • FRIED CRABS
• SHRIMP, STEAMED, FRIED
20 KINDS of SANDWICHES ALL TO GO!
614-16 LAURENS STREET
OPEN 'TIL 1:00 A.M. SUNDAYS TOO!
LA 3-4499

Congratulations TO THE AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPER ON ITS 75th ANNIVERSARY
The Best In... POULTRY
FRESH-KILLED WHOLE CHICKENS
LEGS, BREASTS & WINGS
• TURKEYS • GEESE • DUCKS • CAPONS
• CORNISH HENS • EGGS • BUTTER
• RABBITS
STALLS 116-17-130-31
LAFAYETTE MARKET
LA 3-4499