"No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States." — CONSTITUTION

THE 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

4 NOVEMBER 14, 1967 NOVEMBER 18, 1967

The Elections

When the President campaigned for his 1965 Voting Rights Act, he talked about the ballot being the indispensable tool with which citizens in a democracy make their desires known and cause thier needs to be met.

The tool, rightly used, demonstrated its power in many places in the nation last Tuesday, in big cities and in state legislatures.

Black Americans, with the help of numbers of white citizens whom they were able to persuade to vote with them on various issues, made major political gains.

Election of Cleveland Mayor Carl B. Stokes and Gary, Indiana Mayor Richard G. Hatcher were of course the outstanding events. As racially significant was the defeat of Boston's Mrs. Louise Day Hicks by Kevin H. White on a school bussing issue.

Running a close second in importance were the elections in Mississippi, Virginia and (on Nov. 4) Louisiana of colored politicos to state legislatures for the first time since Reconstruction.

Robert G. Clark will represent Holmes Co., Miss.; Dr. W. Ferguson Reid will hold forth for Henrico Co. in Va.'s House of Delegates and the Rev. A. L. Davis and Atty. Ernest N. Morial will protect the interests of New Orleans' 20th District in the Louisiana House of Representatives.

Mrs. Georgia Davis also became the first colored woman to serve in the Kentucky Senate, having overcome her opponents in her Louisville district.

Mississippi voters, even though they did not turn away racist candidate for governor, John Bell Williams, can be proud of the election of some 21 colored delta folk to local offices, led in importance by James Joliff as county supervisor of Wilkinson Co.

We think Whitney M. Young, Jr., director of the National Urban League, properly summed up the situation when he noted that the elections demonstrated that while white backlash is a reality, "it is not as powerful as demagogues would have us believe."

If Tuesday's happenings are repeated frequently enough, if the voting tool is effectively used often enough, we can all look forward to a greater America for all people.

The McClellan Investigation

Senator John McClellan, the Senate's chief investigator, has turned his attention to last summer's ghetto outbreaks, having concluded in advance that they are the work of "outside agitators" aided and abetted by anti-poverty workers.

Armed with a slush fund of $150,000, the dour-faced Arkansan, after only four days of inconclusive testimony has already reached the anticipated erroneous verdict.

Slum dwellers, he is convinced, would never protest their miserable existence unless black power militants and federal poverty workers stepped in to lead the way with inflammatory speeches, tossed molotov cocktails and hurled bricks.

McClellan, thus has let it be known he's not the least bit interested in what caused the holocausts in Newark, Detroit or Milwaukee. Completely ignorant of the despair that is the daily potion of ghetto residents, he couldn't care less about rat-infested, ramshackle housing, about inadequate education, and about non-existent recreational facilities.

As the great ferret-outer of wrongdoing and defender of the status quo, his interest is centered wholly in who dared make such violent protest against the terrible plight of the dispossessed.

For this problem created by angry disturbers of the peace, the crusader from Arkansas has a solution: "We hear a lot of talk about rats today. We've got a lot of human rats who also need elimination."

Just how this process of wholesale elimination — by rope, by electric chair, or by gas — would be carried out was not made clear.

No doubt members of the Senate, far more sophisticated than Mr. McClellan, have already concluded entrusting an investigation of urban problems to a backwoods-oriented chairman was a shameful waste of tax money.

The McClellan probe is certainly not the answer to slum troubles. If anything it will add more fuel to raging flames.

Mac's Sense Of Ministry

One of the tenets of modern Christian religion is that the moral and ethical teachings of Jesus have relevancy to all men in all pursuits — that the barber, the baker, the candlestick maker all should create opportunities to perform a Christian ministry.

Doubtless the man whose business is maintaining the fighting and killing capability of a country would have to be most creative to relate the ethics of brotherhood to his main pursuit.

But that is just what Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara has accomplished.

Although he didn't refer to it as such, in a speech delivered to the National Association of Educational Broadcasters last week the Secretary talked in detail about the moral, ethical and Christian ministry of the Pentagon under his command.

After detailing the unequaled achievements of the Department in providing national combat readiness, McNamara asked this question:

"Can the vast resources of the Defense Department be used to contribute to our nation's benefit beyond the narrow — though vitally necessary — role of military power?"

In giving an affirmative answer, the Secretary outlined three Defense programs geared to raising the level of participation in the American good life by colored servicemen.

They are the Open Housing program, "to break through barriers of racially discriminatory off-base housing for military personnel; Project 100,000, "to salvage the poverty-scarred youth of our society at the rate of 100,000 men each year; and Project Transition, "to assist three-quarters of a million men leaving service each year to train for the role in civilian life that contributes most to their personal fulfillment and the nation's benefit."

An example of the Secretary's thinking along these lines is shown in this statement on housing bias:

"Our nation should not, and will not, ask a colored sergeant, for example, to risk his life, day after dangerous day, in the heat and hardship of a jungle war, and then bring him home and compel him to remain separated from his wife and his children because of the hate and prejudice that parades under the pomposity of racial superiority.

"The color of the blood that our men shed in the defense of Asia is all the same shade."

In a national television interview recently, Senate Leader Mike Mansfield was asked if the President would consider dropping McNamara from the cabinet in 1968 in view of anti-war criticism directed at him.

Mansfield's reply was, "He has been the best Secretary of Defense we've had. I think it would be a great mistake if the President considered this possibility."

We agree. We need more top echelon administrators with McNamara's sense of ministry.

Police Spoilers

We have said before, and with the shape of things we shall, regrettably, have to say again that one of the obvious reasons for violent revolt among black citizens is verbal and physical police brutality.

This truth was demonstrated again in Winston-Salem, N.C. recently. Community leaders expressed dismay and surprise at the three nights of rioting in the rich cigarette city in view of the better-than-average salaries, the low rate of unemployment and the progressive integration processes.

But City Councilman Carl H. Russell, who knows what and how his brother-constituents think and feel, said, "We have had incidents of police brutality. We have seen the police exonerated in every instance."

It was a police club which set off the recent riot. James Eller had been drunk and was locked up.

The story given out by police was that Eller tried to escape from jail. In subduing him, Officer W. E. Owens admitted striking him on the head once with a weighted leather "slapjack."

Eller was booked and released on bond. Shortly thereafter he was admitted to a hospital where he died from brain concussion. The autopsy showed that Eller had concussions not in one spot but in three spots. Officer Owens was exonerated by the police discipline board.

The autopsy report in this case revealed the blatant police lie and brutality. In most cases there is no such clear proof.

It is common in prosperous Winston Salem, say colored citizens, for police and even police court judges to refer to blacks as "boy." "They use words that are brutal," says Russell. And most colored people in these times, happily, have too much pride to stand for such verbal demeaning of their manhood.

It would well serve the business community (a major loser in riots) not only in Winston-Salem, but throughout the country to join with us in bringing pressures to correct police attitudes, for a brutal policeman can spoil all the other good things present in a community.

Tough Man On Defense

Wilkins Speaks • *By Roy Wilkins*

They'll Need Sustenance Before Thanksgiving

Congress has decided to leave the riot situation to the mayors, chiefs of police and local business men. It is going to adjourn in time to eat Thanksgiving turkey at home. If there are riots next year, let someone else worry.

WILKINS

Of course, Congress does not intend, literally, to let the riot topic strictly alone. Its members have made and will make many speeches on "safety in the streets." Many a member who would not vote for low-income housing, curbs on job discrimination or more money for schools will deliver a harangue on Stokely Cormichael or Rap Brown.

Then, too, while Congress does not plan to act constructively to build a just and peaceful climate in the ghetto cities, it will investigate and pin responsibility for rioting where Congress thinks it belongs. Never mind the facts. Facts may lead to socialism or worse. Facts may demonstrate the need for schools, for housing, for jobs and for better police methods.

McClellan opens riot hearing

The Senate committee headed by the Hon. John L. McClellan of Arkansas has begun its hearings with the police assault on student dormitories at the Texas Southern University in Houston. According to the McClellan record thus far, the ransacking was simply one in which the long-suffering Houston police defended themselves from sniping by students who had been whipped up by bold, bad black power agitators.

The McClellan committee will drag its hearings over into the second session, deep into the winter and spring. Naturally, in an election year, one aim will be to show that somebody, somewhere, has been "soft" on these rioting groups.

But Congress is not concerning itself with the conditions that everyone, except ostrich-like citizens, agrees cause disturbances. Despite the ghetto importance of the rent supplement program, Congress cut the funds from 40 millions of dollars to 10 millions. In a budget of more than 130 billions, containing such vital items as the Subversive Activities Board, how can we possibly allot more than 10 millions to rent supplements for aid to ghetto housing?

Model cities program cut

The model cities program was cut to just over 200 million. The Teacher Corps funds were handed over to the tender administration of the states. The Neighborhood Youth Corps was fighting for its life in the closing days of Congress. The civil rights bill, stripped to one heavily revised section, faces a filibuster or postponement. A curtailed anti-poverty bill is due to pass after the nation-wide program has been kept jittery the whole year.

No, Congress is not enacting a program to tackle the real evils which are at the root of urban unrest. It prefers to fence with partisan politics and with the opponents it has conjured up: agitators, Communists and people-who-won't-work.

Its members may remind themselves smugly that in that New World harvest time, three plus centuries ago, the indomitable Pilgrims fought the rigors and hazards of a strange and hostile land. "Why," will ask, "do not the black people work and sacrifice and suffer as did the Pilgrims?"

We sacrificed and worked

Part of the answer is that our people have suffered and sacrificed and worked, generation after generation. But instead of a reward in the form of a rich land stretching from sea to shining sea, the black man's reward was legal slavery, peonage, persecution, segregation, humiliation and a mean and pervasive deprivation.

The turkeys of the Congressmen should ooze with chestnut dressing, the sweet potatoes should be heavy with butter and the pumpkin and mincemeat pies loaded with spices and brandy. The lawmakers should enjoy the dinner this November. They may spend the sustenance, spiritual and temporal, before Thanksgiving next year.

Strength For These Days From The Bible

Behold, now is the acceptable time. (II Cor. 6:2)

To Be Equal • *By Whitney M. Young Jr.*

He Believes Tuesday's Election Truly A Victory For America

For the first time in our history, colored candidates have been elected mayors of major cities. Carl B. Stokes, mayor-elect of Cleveland and Richard G. Hatcher, mayor-elect of Gary, now join the many other talented persons of color who hold important governmental positions.

WHITNEY YOUNG

It was a wonderful day, and one colored disk jockey proclaimed the joyful day-after the elections as "National Soul Brother Day." Colored citizens all over the country had reason to rejoice, for the election results meant more to them than just having black people in high positions.

These results were a perfect indication of the very real and legitimate political power the black community can wield in cooperation with liberals and concerned conservatives.

Carl Stokes won in Cleveland because he was able to convince enough white voters that he was the best qualified man for the job. And many white voters have learned to abandon a reflex kind of prejudice where colored persons are involved. Real political power comes through forging the kind of alliances that a Carl Stokes created in Cleveland.

Meaningful coalition wins

There are any number of so-called militants yelling "black power" with no knowledge of what power is or how to get it. Carl Stokes has shown all of us that the way to achieve power is to be better than the other guy, not to scare him out of his wits, and to work with all kinds of people and groups in a meaningful coalition.

I hope that one of the results of this election will be the death of the backlash scare. In the months preceding the election we heard all sorts of dire predictions about how solid white voting blocs would crush colored candidates.

In Boston, one of the candidates for mayor, Mrs. Louise Hicks, was generally described as a backlash candidate. She had fought against steps which would have integrated Boston's school system, and most commentators predicted that she would role up a massive racist vote. She did role up a large minority of the vote, but she lost.

She lost. That is the point.

We can talk all we want about numbers of votes Mrs. Hicks got, or the shady dealings of the machine in Gary which resulted in court orders against ballot-box tampering. But this is not important when seen in the light of the final results. Bigots were shown to be an ineffectual minority, and candidates in big-city elections thought of as segregationists, lost.

Bigots ineffectual minority

So let's not concentrate so much on the backlashers. I hope the press will finally understand that they have been played up too much. They lost in 1964; they lost in 1967.

They are strong; but I think it has now been proven that when the chips are down, enough white citizens are willing to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with colored citizens for justice and decency.

The big, most important message this election gives us is that enough of the silent white majority will vote with black persons to create a coalition stronger than that the backlashers can muster.

I say the silent white majority, because in matters of race relations, it is silent. I'd estimate 80 percent of white citizens are indifferent and aloof from the struggle for civil rights and equal opportunity.

They must end their apathy

Perhaps ten percent are actively involved in the fight, and another ten percent are open bigots. If Justice is to be achieved, it is that great mass of American citizens who constitute the other 80 percent who must end their apathy.

I think they proved, at least on election day, that they are not about to join hands with the bigots. Large numbers of whites had to join black minorities to put both Hatcher and Stokes across. That these white votes were forthcoming after so much controversy and hate had been stirred up is a tribute to the good sense and ultimate decency of the American people.

And while we are at it, let's not forget the South. Some local races were won by colored candidates, and in many states and localities there were colored firsts. A Virginia doctor became the first member of his race elected to the House of Delegates since 1891, while Mississippi now has 22 black office-holders, all but one chosen in the last four months.

It looks to me like democracy showed a lot of skeptics that it can work. It was truly a victory for America.

Thoughts Of The Founder

A man ought to cultivate habits of thrift whether he has any desire to become rich or not.

John H. Murphy Sr.
Feb. 4, 1899

AFRO READERS SAY

I wholly disapprove of what you say but will defend to the death your right to say it.—Voltaire on Toleration

Mayoral Victories Trumpeted

BROOKLYN, N.Y. — The gloriously triumphant emergence of two proud, cool, sharp, nitty gritty, resourceful, never-say-die, God-fearing black men, Carl Stokes of Cleveland, Ohio and Richard Hatcher of Gary, Indiana, from the mayoralty races, is an effective and dramatic vindication of the democratic process. Where else in the whole wide world could it have happened? Indeed, this is a question to ponder. Only in America. I repeat: Only in America.

The enlightened voters of Cleveland and Gary are a reflection of the spreading I-Am-Beginning-To-See-The-Light philosophy that judges a man as an individual, not as a member of a so-called race or religion or by the shape of his nose. The Honorable Carl Stokes and the Honorable Richard Hatcher are not black mayors, mind you; but these distinguished Americans are mayors who happened to have been born black.

All men of good will rejoice and are exceedingly glad, especially the disenchanted blacks who live in the alleys of affluent America and had begun to feel forever-damned because of the color of their skin.

Jesus, what a hallelujah time for America! A day of jubilee. Beat the drums. Sound the trumpets. Shoot the cannons. Two soul brothers are in control. So let the good times roll. Great day in the morning. A new day is dawning. Joy to the world, the Black Man has come. And everything will be kopacetic.

But this is only the beginning. He has his eyes on the White House. Let all the people shout, "AMEN!" Say it again. Once again! Well, all right then.

Gertrude Stein said, "a rose is a rose is a rose," but I declare that a man is a man is a man! Under our democratic system, any man can rise as high as any other.

Long live democracy. Democracy is more than a word; it is a living reality. One-for-all-and all-for-one. The mini-minded cynics and the profaners of the great American Dream may as well crawl back into the woodworks, because America is on the march. We have a rendezvous with destiny.

Atlanta games?

Baltimore — There are some peculiar things going on at the Atlanta Police Department which should be probed by civic organizations.

Under the "stationhouse fine" system, a fine may be satisfied by working at the police station while the person lives at home. Generally, he works around the lookup.

In a preliminary investigation of alleged irregularities, I found that women prisoners are not necessarily assigned to the women's detention block. In fact, a lone woman is assigned to the basement office where she is inadequately supervised.

I further found that the woman doesn't have to work. All she has to do is come to work at 8 A.M. sit in the office with the man who gave her the fine, and go to the liquor store to purchase wine for white male prisoners who are also serving stationhouse fines.

On October 23, I placed under surveillance a colored woman who had been assigned to work in the basement of the police station for Messrs. Bowen and Hendrick. I followed this woman from a liquor store to a restroom on the Butler street side of the station. I opened the restroom door and saw her drinking wine with a white male prisoner.

One hour later, I went to the station basement and found the same woman kissing a white male prisoner. Seeing me, she left the room.

As I waited to discuss this with the man responsible for her fine, a white prisoner came out of his office. He told another white prisoner that Mr. B. . . . was in the office with this woman, the one I had followed, and was going to jail.

I asked Bowen where the woman was whom I observed coming out of the liquor store. He said she was intoxicated and he had sent her home.

No colored woman serving a stationhouse fine should be assigned to work anywhere except in the women's cell block where they will be supervised by matrons, not policemen or male employees. It has been rumored for years that certain colored women serving stationhouse fines have been used for immoral purposes.

FRANK L. ROBERSON

"Don't You Know There's A War On?" —Pierotti in The New York Post

Afro Credo

I measure a newspaper not in buildings, equipment and employees — those are trimmings.

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 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 injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

The AFRO-AMERICAN must become a bi-weekly, then a tri-weekly, and eventually, when advertising warrants, a daily.

It has always had a loyal constituency who believe it honest, decent and progressive. It is that kind of newspaper now and I hope it never changes.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR.
December 25, 1920

Institute to be held at Pimlico Jr. High

An Orientation Institute on the Community School Program in Baltimore will be sponsored by the public schools' Division of School-Community Relations Friday and Saturday at Pimlico Junior High School.

The designated community schools for Baltimore — are designated community schools, from social agencies and from the community at large.

On Friday night begining at 7:30 p.m., Dr. Dan W. Dodson, director of the Center for Human Relations and Community Studies at New York University, will speak on the concept of "Community Schools."

The Friday meeting at Pimlico, Park Heights Ave. and W. Northern Parkway, is open to the public.

SPEAKING AT the Saturday closed sessions will be Ralph Goglia, director of community Schools in New Haven, Conn.; and Frank G. Manley Sr., executive director of Mott Foundation Projects, Flint, Mich., and other consultants.

John O. Hopkins, assistant superintendent for School-Community Relations, will preside over the depth-oriented conference.

The Whole Town Is Talking About
Pantry Pride
(OLD FASHION PRICES IN A MODERN SETTING)
3 NEW Fabulous
Pantry Pride DISCOUNT FOODS
COME TO BALTIMORE
NOW OPEN
These THREE Convenient PANTRY PRIDE Discount Super Markets
★ MONDAWMIN Shopping Center
REISTERSTOWN ROAD & LIBERTY HEIGHTS AVE.
★ LIBERTY COURT Shopping Center
LIBERTY AND OLD COURT ROADS
★ 7848 WISE AVE.
AT LYNCH ROAD
MONDAWMIN SHOPPING CENTER
Now There Are 8 Pantry Pride
7848 WISE AVENUE
THREE NEW PANTRY PRIDES ARE EASY TO REACH FROM ALL DIRECTIONS
LIBERTY COURT SHOPPING CENTER
OVER 7,000 ITEMS DISCOUNT PRICED
A new concept in food pricing offering discount prices on over 7,000 items. This means maximum savings on every item on your food and household list, adding greater shopping power to your food budget, any day, every day.
FEATURING buy power pricing
MEANS WEEK AFTER WEEK, MONTH AFTER MONTH PANTRY PRIDE WILL HAVE LOW DISCOUNT PRICES IN EVERY DEPARTMENT.
• NO GAMES
• NO GIMMICKS
• NO STAMPS
JUST EVERYDAY IN-THE-WEEK LOW, LOW PRICES