N.Y. Teachers Fail Pupils

History will harshly judge the United Federation of Teachers local in New York, along with its misguided president, Albert Shanker.

Shanker's union has conducted an all - out, public - be - damned strike aimed at nothing more and nothing less than destroying the Ocean Hill-Brownsville district, an experiment in school decentralization.

As in most other strikes by teachers it seldom is the education of the children entrusted to them that motivates the clash.

Teachers' concern with their failure to provide colored and Puerto Rican pupils quality education did not stir them to strike.

They were only so moved to act when there were indications the parents were fed up with their failures and an experiment was underway that would prove conclusively that the pupils could be served better.

That and only that, plus the dogmatic desire to control, seems to stand up as issues.

Shanker and the UFT charged racism was being used against the teachers who were transferred, actually because they were not in favor of decentralization.

But of the 541 teachers hired by Rhody McCoy and the district board, 70 percent were white and 50 percent of them were Jewish.

That action spiked the charges of racism and anti-Semitism.

Teachers always were transferred in New York much in the same manner the 79 were sent packing by the Ocean Hill-Brownsville board. But as a means of ending the needless strike, the board agreed to take all of them back.

Shanker and UFT hark back to when the central board tried to force the decentralized district to take back the teachers against its will as proof this wouldn't work, stood firm.

Shanker and the UFT harked back to though arrayed against them were Mayor Lindsay, the Board of Regents, the state commissioner of education, the board of education, the superintendent of schools, the United Parents Association, leaders of most educational institutions in and around New York, the NAACP, the National Urban League and many more.

Shanker flatly stated that what he wanted was the scalps of McCoy and the principals of the eight schools operating in the Ocean Hill-Brownsville District.

In short, Shanker and UFT wanted decentralization dead in New York City.

Shanker and UFT want New York back in the bag where parents in the various school districts have no say over the quality of education their children get.

Shanker and UFT haven't been able to produce quality education.

What they've been doing since the start of the school term is standing in the way of an experiment that might bring about this desirable result — at no cost to teachers, except some honest toil and consideration for their pupils.

It is a shameful picture Shanker and UFT smeared over New York.

Powell Should Be Seated

Adam Clayton Powell, who was re-elected for the 14th time as Democratic Representative from the 18th District of New York, has announced he is ready to give up his self-imposed exile in Bimini and return to action. We hope Adam keeps the faith, and that there is no more quibbling by Congress over his justifiable right to be seated.

The veteran Harlem politician was denied his seat in Congress after a noisy row over his actions in a New York libel suit and a dispute over his frequent foreign trips. This action came after Mr. Powell had served 24 years in the House and distinguished himself as an able congressman in the opinion of at least two Presidents and scores of his fellow lawmakers in addition to his loyal Harlem constituency.

It was our view at the time that the treatment given Mr. Powell was harsh and unfair, but be that as it may, the voters of the 18th District of Harlem have decided in overwhelming terms, that he should be their representative and that is the way it should be.

The Harlem vote re-elected Mr. Powell in a special election and again in the regular congressional election, both times by vast majorities. They could not express their views more clearly.

There should be no more procrastination about Mr. Powell taking his seat, either by him or by Congress. Mr. Powell has cleared the legal hurdles which stirred the congressional action, and has paid the price.

Any attempt on the part of Congress to delay seating Mr. Powell now would make it clear, as some have charged, that a small minority of anti-Powell congressmen are more concerned with "getting Powell" than following their own rules and regulations.

We are mindful that the makeup of the 91st Congress will be little different from the roster of the 90th Congress which took the original "oust Powell" action, but the time has come for consistency and fairness. And "law and order with justice," if you please.

Election Gains

There were important gains in Nov. 5 elections across the country.

While the presidential ticket supported by a majority of AFRO readers did not win, significant advances in other elections indicate new breakthroughs.

Three new members were elected to Congress for an all-time high of nine, not a representative number by far, but progress.

Florida and North Carolina elected members to its lower houses, leaving only Alabama, Arkansas and South Carolina as Dixie states with no colored representative in their legislatures.

Larger delegations were chosen in states like Georgia and Tennessee.

In Hancock County, Georgia, two of the three commissioners now are colored.

Scores of judges, school board members and other officials were elected, an estimated 75 to new offices in the 11 Southern states.

Out in Washington where a small percentage of the voters are colored, Arthur Fletcher garnered more than 500,000 votes, 47 percent of those cast, in his strong but losing bid to become lieutenant governor.

It is interesting that he came so close in Washington, reminding us that Ed Brooke is senator of Massachusetts, another state with relatively low colored voting strength.

If colored citizens register and vote, they can win bigger voices in the governments of the nation.

They can vote enemies out of office and replace them with friends, white or colored.

And, with the cooperation of their party machinery, they can be elected with white support just as white candidates are chosen on the strength of colored ballots.

The name of the game is participation.

Results on Nov. 5 show the results of trying. Next time, more have to be ready to try harder, at every level.

Special Case For SBA

The Small Business Administration's $350,000 loan guarantee for Marion Harris in Fayetteville, N.C. is proof that Howard Samuels, SBA administrator, is serious about making funds available to colored businessmen.

It's a special case that points to the importance of SBA's Project OWN program.

Mr. Harris, a veteran laundryman, was burned out in June two days after he was successful bidder for a contract with nearby Fort Bragg. He faced ruination.

As an example of why colored people generally don't pull themselves up by their bootstraps as others do, Mr. Harris found that no local bank would let him have the needed money despite the fact the SBA had okayed him for the loan.

With the help of Congressman William F. Ryan of New York, the laundryman was able to borrow the money from the Mechanics and Farmers Bank of Durham, N.C.; the First National City Bank of New York, and the Amalgamated Savings and Trust Bank of Chicago.

Credit also should go to the U. S. Army brass at Fort Bragg. With Mr. Harris out of business and white-owned area banks denying him credit, Fort Bragg could have moved to wriggle out of the contract with him.

Here is an example of public officials joining hands with high-minded sectors of private industry, to give a proven and respected businessman a deserved new chance.

It should inspire others who have hopes of branching out but who have feared to tackle certain lending institutions because of past customs and barriers.

Doors are opening and we must keep knocking.

'Now You Brats Can Study

Wilkins Speaks • By Roy Wilkins

Nixon's Devastating Plan

The fear of colored citizens are being given substance by the first planning talks out of what will become the Richard M. Nixon administration.

According to the speculation, one of the principal Nixon moves will be to return to the states the responsibility and control for carrying out programs on education, welfare and other social services. These are the programs which directly touch people. In past administrations most of these programs have been guided by the federal government.

ROY WILKINS

President-elect Nixon is said to be committed to the system of bloc grants to states instead of the pinpointing of federal monies into specific localities. If this is the plan which he will propose and which his followers in the Congress will push, then, as far as the colored citizen is concerned, the race will be getting a slightly modified George C. Wallace plan.

It is true that, unlike Wallace, Mr. Nixon does not propose to repeal the 1964 Civil Rights Act or the 1965 Voting Rights Act or to nullify almost completely the 1954 Brown ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court. But if he sends federal funds for education, for example, in a lump sum to, say, Alabama, he will be turning Uncle Sam's back while the states do as they please about both distribution and enforcement.

Crocodile tears

It ought to be remembered that the whole fight of black Americans for 70 years has been for federal legislation, federal executive action and federal court decisions precisely because many of the individual states grievously shortchanged them. Like other Americans, they are citizens both of their states and of the United States. But in their case, many states have rejected federal direction. Federal court decisions have been bypassed or ignored. Attempts to enact federal civil rights legislation have been fought down to the wire.

Thus Senator William J. Fulbright, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, can shed crocodile tears over the blocking of attention to civil rights and urban problems by the expenditures for the Vietnam War — all the while having a 100 per cent anti-civil rights voting record.

There has been much talk about the failures of the American democratic system. Young white and black Americans are said to be losing faith in it. If Mr. Nixon and his followers (whether Republicans, Democrats or Wallaceites) push public education, welfare and other services back to the whims of intrastate rivalries and prejudices, disillusionment will be speeded and the cry for change will rise more insistently.

Congressman Albert Quie (R.-Minn.) failed in his effort to put all federal aid to the states in bloc grant form, leaving the states to determine the shares to be allotted to whom. But Congresswoman Edith Green of Portland, Ore., did succeed with her amendment for block grants to the Teachers Corps.

Previously, the federal government sent Teachers Corps members directly into school districts containing children from low-income families. Under the Green plan, the states will decide which districts will get extra teaching help and how much.

30-year setback

The statistics on how the states allocated funds are too voluminous to be cited here, but anyone who studies them will be struck with wonder that colored children in some states managed to get any education whatsoever. The GOP plan, if adopted, will set black Americans back at least 30 years and force them to fight a weary war all over again.

In today's critical infighting, far removed from the headlines, the black community needs desperately the energy, courage, imagination and alertness of its youth. Exposing and defeating the bloc grant plan is more important to the race as a whole than taking over a college building or issuing a manifesto.

To Be Equal • By Whitney M. Young Jr.

UFT School Strike Selfish Bid To Keep Failure Factories

The teachers' strike in New York City has attracted nationwide attention, and rightly so, because the issues behind it will affect most large cities sooner or later.

WHITNEY YOUNG

Albert Shanker, head of the United Federation of Teachers local that called the strike, says the main issue involved the transfer of some 79 teachers from the Ocean Hill-Brownsville school district, an experiment in community control.

Since teachers have always been transferred it seems strange that the UFT would shut down the schools over this issue. When the district indicated it would be willing to let the teachers, who were transferred because they weren't in sympathy with community control, back into their classrooms, the UFT switched to another line of attack.

Mr. Shanker dug up some anti-Semitic leaflets and charged that the local district was responsible for them. So the work of a handful of haters was distributed throughout the city by the UFT, releasing ugly racial antagonisms in a vain attempt to smear the local board. The proof of the falsehood of the charges is that half the new teachers hired by the board are Jewish, and the UFT charges were denied and condemned by Jewish leaders in the city.

Now the issue was harassment, the UFT said. Teachers had been threatened. This is deplorable, but they should also have mentioned the threats received by non-striking teachers who had to force their way into locked school buildings to teach.

The buildings were locked because the custodians, principals, and supervisors were backing the UFT. Incredible, isn't it, that these managers would also strike? It's as if the top executive of U.S. Steel were to walk out in support of a steelworkers strike.

Tip-off to real issue

Their action is the tip-off that the real issue in the strike has nothing at all to do with transfer or harassment. The real —and only —issue is the attempt by the vested school interests in the city to kill any attempt to decentralize a system swollen with bureaucrats more concerned with security than with educating the children.

Community control threatens these people. It means that they will have to be accountable to parents for the first time. Black kids fall farther and farther behind in their reading and math and nobody cares. Community control attempts to reverse the vicious cycle that turns the schools into failure factories.

I went into the Ocean Hill-Brownsville district to see for myself whether the experiment was working. Contrary to UFT charges, I didn't see any "extremists" there.

Instead, I saw dedicated young teachers who told me of the joy of teaching in a community that trusted them and supported their efforts. I saw children making progress in reading for the first time in their lives; kids who came to school eager to learn.

I met administrators like Rhody McCoy, who talked of the problems of sabotage by the central Board of Education last Spring and the UFT this Fall. But he also told me of the commitment of his teachers and the spirit of the community.

Power is the issue

It would be tragic if this noble experiment were to fail. Community control of the schools is the last hope for transforming ghetto education. It offers black parents the same rights suburban parents enjoy — an elected school board accountable to them.

Power is the issue here. And in this, the conflict in New York mirrors the state of the civil rights movement today. Community control represents a demand by ghetto parents that they be allowed to share the power, the responsibilities and the privileges that middle class white people enjoy.

The Weather

Nov. 20, 21 22 — rain, wind
Nov. 23, 24, 25 — clearing, cold
Nov. 26 — fair and cold

NOVEMBER 1968						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
-	-	-	-	-	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Full Moon	Nov. 4	11:25 p.m.
Last Quarter	Nov. 13	2:54 a.m.
New Moon	Nov. 20	3:02 a.m.
First Quarter	Nov. 26	6:31 p.m.

	Sun. Rises	Sun Sets
Wed., Nov. 20	6:50 a.m.	4:40 p.m.
Thurs., Nov. 21	6:51 a.m.	4:40 p.m.
Fri., Nov. 22	6:52 a.m.	4:39 p.m.
Sat., Nov. 23	6:53 a.m.	4:39 p.m.
Sun., Nov. 24	6:54 a.m.	4:38 p.m.
Mon. Nov. 25	6:56 a.m.	4:38 p.m.
Tues., Nov. 26	6:57 a.m.	4:37 p.m.

Strength For These Days From The Bible

Let all things be done . . . in order. (I Cor. 14:40)

AFRO-READERS SAY

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

Colleges Key To Olympics

Negro athletes have made outstanding records in the Olympics. Why? Only now are a considerable number going to college.

That is due to real economic gains as Fair Employment Practice laws begin to be accepted and enforced, and to the federal government's program of making college education available to poor persons through the G.I. Bill of Rights and the National Defense Education Program.

Universities are also beginning to accept colored students, even though not fully qualified academically, because of the separate but unequal education which was all that many of them could get.

Thus potential minority athletes are only now beginning to get the college coaching and training that many writes have gotten all along.

This raises the question of the need to open college and professional training more fully.

Just as athletes are becoming outstanding when they have for the first time a real chance in considerable numbers at college coaching so students may have a tremendous undeveloped potential of scholastic ability in medicine, biological and physical science, engineering, law, finance, and business.

Provided they get the truly equal opportunities which on an average they seldom have now.

If we make educational opportunities truly equal colored students almost certainly will advance tremendously in academic, scientific, professional, and business fields, just as they proved outstanding in athletics.

If your predominantly white society fails to do that, all of America will lose the abilities, now undeveloped, which would be available if opportunities were opened in a truly equal degree.

ALFRED BAKER LEWIS

Thurmond's 'Caining' Praised

McColl, S.C. — This is a letter of thanks to attorney Frank Cain whose letter appeared on this page Nov. 19. Keep up the good work Mr. Cain.

We hope you will not allow Thurmond and other Southern lawmakers to forget that it was their disrespect for the law that made civil rights demonstration necessary. Had they been willing to abide by the law even then the disorders that still plague the country would not have happened.

We hope you will remind them that it was their clubs, their police dogs and their tear gas that turned Brown and Carmichael into men of violence.

Yes and you can remind them of their speeches calling for "Massive Resistence," which so inflamed their followers that they bombed churches, burned homes and murdered civil rights workers.

Remind them that during all of that there was no call for law and order. Only when the black man began to fight back did the phrase law and order become fashionable.

Tell them about it, Mr. Cain; don't let them forget one minute.

THOMAS C. McNEIL

Peace Not For Generals

Washington — Well, here we go again. South Vietnam demands a veto on the possible Paris peace agreement. It doesn't matter that we're spending $3 billion a month and have lost over 25,000 lives; they won't come to Paris.

The U. S. government is just getting what it asked for. The Saigon generals haven't changed their tune over the past three years and Secretary Rusk knew about it. He kept saying that, when the time came, Saigon would fall in line, but the time is here and they haven't yet done so.

Now the people have elected Nixon, who is all for peace but doesn't want to impose it on Saigon. All the generals have to do is wait and the gallant Republicans will save their hides, or so they think.

In general, the election showed a vote to suspend further improvements to the country. It was also a vote for continued corruption in Vietnam.

Moving back to home territory, I have long felt there were men intent on turning the trials of the accused assassins of Sen. Robert Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King into studies in farce.

The trial theme seems to be continuance, continuance. Sirhan got another month and now Ray gets four.

An evil trend seems to be developing in that, when great men are killed, the writers swarm around to make money from the disaster.

ZACCHEUS WHITE

POET'S NOOK

TURKEY WITH PERSPECTIVE

There still lives a wise old gobbler,
Who sat around in a barn like a cobbler.
He seemed cleverly coached,
As Thanksgiving approached,
And he tottered as a most tipsy hobbler.

PAUL D. McALLISTER

Case for protest vote

New York — "Use your vote where it will count. Forget Gregory, Cleaver and Mitchell, your Oct. 18 advises. Why?

Your argument for voting for a potential winner is specious because voting for a man who can win, but does not reflect your interests, is a gift to the enemy.

Of course none of these candidates had a chance of winning, but change does not come overnight. A meaningful protest vote would be the beginning of changes which could wrest our country from the men in power.

WILLIAM L. PATTERSON

Churches Moving

There is every reason to believe that the churches are involved in a more meaningful examination of their role in serving mankind than in some recent periods.

For one thing, colored church leaders are calling to their own attention and that of their white counterparts the obvious areas in which they could contribute greatly were they but to act:

The National Committee of Negro Churchmen in St. Louis and the meeting in Greater Boston of the Black Seminarians are indications of the soul searching taking place.

There are everywhere evidences that the larger church body has started to grope more forcefully with the knowledge that religious and religious works that exclude any people are unworthy of the church.

Churches are a force among us with unlimited capacity to deal with people and their relations one to another.

That it is necessary to publicly thrash out the shortcomings of the churches on matters such as racial exclusiveness and aloofness from the poor, does not speak well of the institution.

The bright spot in all this is that by showing new awareness of the church's potential to channel the thoughts and actions of millions, the church may decide the time is here when it dare not fail to be worthy of its accepted commitment.

Thoughts Of The Founder

A prophet is not without honor save in his own country.

John H. Murphy Sr.
Aug. 7, 1915

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

TRAFFIC COURT

It's the 'beer in you' that counts, judge says

In Traffic Court Friday, John T. Riley, 45, 200 block N. Fulton Ave., a postal employee and part-time Lexington Market cashier, was found guilty of driving under the influence of alcohol, reckless driving and operating without a registration card.

Judge Mary Arabian imposed fines totaling $135 and costs.

Mr. Riley who said he is a former minister, was apprehended by police after his car collided with another automobile at the intersertion of Pratt and Calhoun Sts. about 2 a.m. June 14, according to testimony.

Mr. Riley contended through his attorney, Leonard S. Freedman that the driver of the other vehicle ran through a stop sign while he, Mr. Riley, had the right of way.

He stated he was on the way home from the night cashier job, and had consumed one beer.

However, the driver of the other car testified he had stopped for the signal and was proceeding around the corner when Mr. Riley drove up without headlights on.

The arresting officer told the court, Mr. Riley said he was on his way to church. Judge Arabian questioned, "At that time of night?"

Other conversation between the defendant and the jurist was on the amount of beer consumed. Mr. Riley said, "I only had one can in the car." Judge Arabian quipped, "It's not how many cans were in the car but how much beer was in you."

Mr. Freedman indicated his client may appeal the decision, however, Mr. Riley paid the fines.

Solicitor airs views tonight

"The City Solicitor Speaks Out," — a candid discussion of Baltimore's racial problems with George L. Russell Jr., Baltimore's solicitor, will be presented 10 p.m. Tuesday, on WMAR-TV, Channel 2.

Appearing with Mr. Russell will be Charles E. Moylan Jr., Baltimore state's attorney, in an examination of the racial climate of the city since the rioting last Holy Week.

It is Mr. Russell's position that "if the moderates, black and white, fail to act now history will have to record that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transition was not the strident clamor of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people."

With Mr. Russell, Mr. Moylan will discuss the incidence of crime and its causes in the Baltimore Ghetto.

Questioning the officials will be David V. Stickle, director of public affairs for WMAR-TV.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY—Advance Federal Savings and Loan marked its 10th year of being a Federal insured institution last week with assets of more than $15,000,000. The celebration was marked by Advance acquiring the $ 5,000 account of Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc., representing the national fraternity. Messrs. W. Emerson Brown, left, and Dr. W. O. Bryson, second from right, drafts from Charles P. Howard Jr. and Wilbert Walker. Mr. Brown is general counsel of Advance. Mr. Howard is legal advisor for Baltimore chapter of Delta Lamba, and affiliate of the national body; Dr. Bryson is president of Advance, and is an official of the local frat.

Johnson wins CAA promotion

The appointment of Robert E. Johnson, 2461 Shirley Ave., as assistant director of the Neighborhood Youth Corps has been announced by Clarence W. Blount, chairman, Community Action Agency.

He will be responsible for supervision of the work-experience and training programs for enrollees, coordinating the educational and job placement activities, and in-service training and staff development.

Mr. Johnson, a Morgan State College graduate, initially began working for CAA in February, 1966, as a neighborhood development counselor.

M. Gordon Wolman, chairman, CAA Commission Manpower Committee, reports that since early 1965 the NYC has provided work experience and training for thousands of inner city youths.

In addition to helping them obtain permanent jobs, NYC has been successful in motivating a high percentage of them to continue their education.

Jamaican prize for Dr. King

The Marcus Garvey Prize given for human rights has been awarded posthumously to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The award was created by the government of Jamaica as part of its observance of the current international year of human rights. The value of the prize is $14,000.

Riot, arson charges are dismissed

Riot and arson charges against Louis Price, 29, 300 block E. Eager St., have been dismissed. Judge J. Gilbert Prendergast however imposed a 30-day sentence for disturbing the peace, from April 6.

The incidents which brought the charges allegedly occurred in the vicinity of a cleaning firm in the 2200 block Greenmount Ave. April 6.

Officer Gregory Ferrell, now a Harbor Tunnel officer testified he observed Mr. Price asking merchants to close or face firebombing. He also testified he saw the defendant urging crowds to break windows.

PRICE WAS convicted in October of inciting to riot, conspiring to commit arson, soliciting persons to riot and disturbing the peace.

On Friday, George Helenski, the deputy states attorney, who prosecuted the case said the testimony of Officer Ferrell "may have been inaccurate."

Mr. Price has been in custody since April 6 under $15,000 bail.

He testified during the civil distrubances in the area, he merely stood by, watching.

He denied he urged merchants to close. He testified he was born in the area and all the merchants knew him well.

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PLUS A 1969 Mercury Marauder hit victoria coupe, with dual-exhaust system, vinyl roof, tinted glass, and yacht deck paneling.
PAN AM
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MEN'S INSULATED 8 INCH BOOT Water resistant leather uppers and lining. Burgundy. $13.92 Everyday Sizes 7-12 9.88
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FIRE-KING CASSEROLE 1-qt. oven-proof casserole with cover, handles. 79c Everyday 58¢
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