"Let us r. . . . satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of hate and bitterness"—MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Baltimore Afro-American

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 FEBRUARY 1, 1969

What's The Secret?

The School Board met for nearly two hours in closed session last Thursday, then let the public in on its deliberations for a swift, 13-minute "open" meeting.

To compound the irony, the meeting was the once-a-month session scheduled in the evening at the War Memorial Building to be convenient for spectators.

During the short meeting there was no discussion of the new school budget, or of recent school fires, or of the threat that the Baltimore Teachers Union may reject administration proposals in current contract negotiations.

At least one of the new School Board members (both Larry S. Gibson and Samuel T. Daniels were sitting in on their first meeting) came away disillusioned. Mr. Gibson said later that he could see no reason—except for investigation of personnel records—why most of the meeting has to be conducted behind closed doors.

The young lawyer said he intends to push for more open discussion during the "public" portion of the School Board meetings.

Mr. Daniels, the other new member, did the only sharp questioning during the public meeting of School Board procedures. The former director of the Community Relations Commission questioned how well school contractors are scrutinized on fair hiring practices. The answer was: not very well.

What we are saying is that the public's business should be conducted in public, not behind closed doors.

We cannot conceive that a progress report on community schools, assignment of children, promotion of personnel is so secret.

And, while on the subject of secrets, we have been wondering for some time why the School Board is months behind in its minute-keeping.

A story in this issue shows that September's board minutes were not adopted until Jan. 23.

Board members of any public organization should have promptly the record of proceedings and they should not have to wait a month or two. In fact, they should be ready the following day.

We recommend to school officials the practice of the State Board of Education, which has its minutes distributed shortly after the Board meets, at the most no longer than a week later.

Governor Mandel's press conference is mimeographed and in the public's hands the day after his news conferences.

The School Board should have its minutes ready at least by the time of the next meeting.

The Job At Hand

Question: Governor, you met with Mr. (Arthur G.) Murphy a while back, of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Baltimore. Before you were chosen governor you emphasized the importance of having an outstanding member of the black community on your staff. Are you any closer to getting Mr. Murphy or any other black person?

Governor Mandel: I discussed it with Mr. Murphy. I am waiting to hear from him.

Question: You have given him a definite offer?

Governor Mandel: I spoke to him about that possibility and there are several aspects of the job that he wanted to confirm in his own personal interests and as soon as these are worked out he is going to come back to me.

Question: Have you talked with any other blacks?

Governor Mandel: I have talked to a lot of them.

Question: Have you offered positions to any of them?

Governor Mandel: Not yet.

Question: Do you plan to?

Governor Mandel: Yes, I do.

Question: Would you have positions to put more than one black person on your staff?

Governor Mandel: Oh, I am sure there would be.

* * *

As this excerpt from Governor Marvin Mandel's recent news conference shows, he has repeatedly — both before he was made governor and now — stated his intentions of appointing black citizens to his staff.

To date nothing has come of these statements. We urge the governor to get on with the appointments to his staff, particularly the black assistants he has so often talked about.

The governor is now formulating his programs. We hope it will be with the aid of Art Murphy or others of his stature in the community.

Dwelling Hazards

Even by conservative estimates, there may be more than 1,000 unlicensed multiple-family dwellings in Baltimore, as conceded by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Recent fires and resulting deaths of young children point up the need for having all multiple-family dwellings listed with and checked by the department charged with that responsibility — Housing and Community Development, headed by Commissioner Robert C. Embry.

The newly-created agency which is now the umbrella-department under which comes all construction, relocation and inspection for the city reports that because of a lack of inspectors it cannot ferret out all the 1,000 dwellings unless individual tenants call in with a complaint.

The lack of licensing (with the accompanying inspection) may be just an oversight by the landlord, officials at the department told the AFRO. Or it may be a deliberate circumvention of the law (to avoid the inspection) by landlords with small holdings, they add.

In view of the fire and safety hazards presented by the unlicensed multiple dwellings, every effort must be made to have them come under the law and the Housing Code of Baltimore.

If you have a complaint or fear that a multiple-family dwelling is unlicensed, the phone number for the Department of Housing and Community Development is 727-3400. The division for housing inspection handles complaints and inspections.

Other divisions, reached by the same number, handle relocation, construction and licenses and permits, if you have problems or questions in these areas.

Slipping And Sliding

Baltimoreans who slipped and slid on that thin coat of ice which faced them Wednesday morning, and found even more treacherous the sidewalks, have a greater appreciation of last week's balmy weather.

Wednesday's snow and ice are likely forerunners of days to come before winter is over.

Until Hey Wednesday, Baltimore area residents had less than two inches of precipitation, well below the normal for January.

Earl Banks To Stay

More than winning football teams, internationally famous track athletes or any of the many other tangibles that produce temporary pride and satisfaction, Morgan State College can be thankful she has faculty members of the calibre of Earl Banks, who last week announced that he plans to remain at the school.

Banks is a rotund man whose paunch often extends over the belt holding up his working trousers. And he might easily be mistaken for nothing more than an astute football coach doing a highly acceptable job.

There are a number of us who regard this as that which is wanted more than anything else in his field — great teams, fine records, total victory and championships.

But Earl Banks is something else. He teaches.

He teaches young men character, responsibility and dedication.

Two such lessons of recent vintage are couched in his attitude toward a post-season bowl invitation for the team on the one hand, and a job offer with a tremendous lure on the other.

The bowl bid carried a restriction against the use of freshman players and Banks turned it down with the remark that the team only achieved its fine record because it had the help of his freshmen. He would not consider leaving them for the sake of the relatively small advantage of national prestige.

The job offer was rejected because he said he could not leave behind a group of young men who had expected him to be with them as they developed into manhood.

Any college should be willing to sacrifice titles and recognition, so long as it can boast teachers who insist, as much by example as by theory,

Feb. 2 is Groundhog Day.

Tradition has it that if it is sunny when the old woodchcuk comes out, we'll have six more weeks of winter days.

We are not really too concerned about the groundhog tradition. Experience tells us there are many more slip and slide days ahead.

We might as well get our boots and rubbers out, and make sure there is an ample supply of salt to spread on the sidewalks.

It is that time of year again.

The Church Gets Religion

The action taken last week by two major religious organizations in the Washington area will be most encouraging to those who look for lasting progress in race relations outside the realm of official activity.

It is very well to pass civil rights laws and establish watchdog agencies within different branches of government to insure that colored people are given a fair break; but until some steps are taken to insure that the majority will conduct themselves properly without official coercion, the burden for enforcing compliance rests with the victim who must always be on his guard.

It is therefore gratifying when the desire to correct social evils takes root in the private sector and is stimulated by the people themselves.

There was indication of such numblings at the grass roots when both the Catholic and Episcopal denominations hurled charges of racism at the hierarchy of their respective churches causing some of the leaders to renounce their memberships in a number of clubs and organizations guilty of racial bias.

It makes no difference how much an official protests about how devoid he is of racial animosity personally, if he continues to hold membership in and support financially, clubs and organizations that openly draw the color line, he is just as guilty as the offender and can condemn their practice by disassociating himself from them.

Expressing concern over the eradication of racism in the Episcopal Church, the Washington chapter of the Episcopal Society for Cultural and Racial Unity introduced the topic for discussion at the Diocesan convention last weekend.

The Catholic's archdiocese faced similar assault when the Center for Christian Renewal, a coalition of priests and laymen threatened a city-wide financial boycott unless the priesthood meets their demands of taking steps to abolish paternalism and institutional racism.

Both of these gestures are significant because they strike at the very core of race relations because people must learn to exist together in harmony in their everyday live when it become a matter of everyday living and not a special thing to be practiced on special occasions like Brotherhood Week.

"It was long a slogan of derision that "In America, Sunday is the most segregated day of the week" whose people who worked together and shopped together and carried on other activities in perfect and often unconscious harmony, split to go their separate ways to different churches on Sunday.

We are glad to see that steps, although faint, are being taken by the laymen themselves to correct these evils with or without the approval of the ruling hierarchy.

We hope it continues to spread to wildfire proportions so that Christians will have a chance to become Christians indeed.

Public Sessions

Our Readers Say:

Cornerstone's Friends

Dear AFRO:

Let me take this opportunity to thank the wonderful people of Baltimore for the expressions of concern given to Cornerstone Baptist Church of Christ during this tragic time when we suffer the loss of our building at Bolton and Wilson Streets by an all-consuming fire on Wednesday, Jan. 8.

From every quarter of this city have come offers of sanctuary, telephone messages, letters, telegrams and financial contributions. For each of these we are grateful, as we are for each person who whispered to God a prayer for Cornerstone.

We have not been able to establish a temporary office, and we are presently acquiring office equipment to replace the loss of ours in the fire. Therefore, no acknowledgement of the receipt of the expression of your hearts and your goodwill has been made by us.

I now, on behalf of my Cornerstone Family, say "Thanks" to those from whom we have heard, and to those whose thoughts and prayers have been ours.

Cornerstone is comfortably situated for our Sunday services in the spacious Masonic Temple, Eutaw Place and Lanvale Streets. Only our building burned on Bolton Street.

The church has been and always will be "on fire" for God.

At 10:50 a.m., our Sunday morning service begins. A 30-minute portion of this service, from 11-11:30 a.m., is broadcast regularly over Radio Station WEBB.

Our first evening service begins at 7:30 p.m., and from 10-11 o'clock our late evening service is broadcast each week over WBMD, 105.7 on the dial.

The daily and week-night activities of Cornerstone and the Sunday sessions of our Sunday School, are held in the commodious facilities of J. B. Johnson Funeral Home, 1900 Eutaw Place.

We deeply appreciate the support which has come from so many people, churches and organizations. Anyone who desires to contribute to our building fund should make checks and money orders payable to Cornerstone Baptist Church of Christ, and address the correspondence to the church, in care of the Masonic Temple, 1307 Eutaw Place, Baltimore 21217. By telephone we may be reached at 523-3807 and 542-6285.

In spite of our tremendous loss, there is excellent espirt de corps in the Cornerstone Family. We are convinced that our Father has funds, and that He has given us friends.

With this, and with our faith, we are certain that from the charred ruins and smoldering embers at Bolton Street our God will cause to be raised a more dedicated and effective Cornerstone.

(Dr.) LOGAN KEARSE,
Founder and Pastor
Cornerstone Baptist
Church of Christ

Warren Shaw Responds

Dear AFRO:

Relating to a daily newspaper article entitled "Block-busting in Baltimore," which says that our firm deliberately put a day-glo sign on 3800 Greeley Road which Esther owned but had not sold, I would like to remind that I stated to the real estate commission that we were not guilty of that act, and was and am willing to take a lie detector test to prove this never took place.

Neither I nor my firm, during the history of our firm have left the community have ever acted to drive white home owners from Ashburton or any community directly or indirectly.

I have long been a believer that integration and amalgamation of the races is and will continue to be a fact of the history of mankind, but the history be correct insofar as the small part I have played in the movement of colored families into decent housing.

The notoriety and constant attacks on me and my firm would make it appear as though I were a racist and that we made a concerted effort to panic individuals of a certain ethnic group to leave the city.

The truth is that my motives have been just the reverse.

The truth is that I am a firm believer in the rather well-worn phrase "all men are brothers after the Father."

Let history be corrected before the real racists create with just such incomplete articles of this type a more subtle yet far more devastating racism contributing only more sparks to perpetuate the fires of blind hatred.

I have been an integrationist in that I believe it to be a fact of existence, and have always believed in full social, economic, and political brotherhood, sincerely convinced that daily it is becoming more so, even in spite of the flare-ups of either the subtle or the blatant extremists who occupy positions superior to their personal philosophies as well as those who burst with infantile and hateful lack of self control and irresponsibility.

As for my part in the so-called and somewhat negative, and fictitious, and unrealistic term "block-busting," it might be extremely interesting to some student of history or social science in our city to consider what part the literally thousands of colored families — for which my firm has played a leading role in their struggle from the ghettos—might have played in the destruction and degradation which was our lot during the 1968 riots.

And I am thankful too, for the dollars being shifted from the city to the county in home owners equities that have turned Baltimore's surrounding counties into shimmering showplaces.

Pre-supposing excellent civic leadership in City Hall, Baltimore is in the finest position ever to move forward, providing the Federal funds being poured into Baltimore City from the Federal Government will instead of being wasted in bureaucracy, be put to sound use to fight the causes of fungus and decay.

Now is a fine time to look forward to skillful leadership and heady management to bring Baltimore to the dawn of real fruition its many citizens' talents and abilities and ambitions.

I too, am well aware that these are still merely very pretty words, yet the implications contained therein are infinitely truer and therefore infinitely better than more and more ever so often of the same futile trivia.

WARREN S. SHAW
Manning-Shaw Realty, Inc.

Memory Of Dr. King

Dear AFRO:

In memory of my precious father, doctor and God himself, Mr. Martin Luther King. Although you are gone, within my mind you are alive.

You slip away too fast, because I want to meet you. But yet, my father, you left a pattern for me to follow. The word nonviolence will forever live within my heart.

With those kind deeds and speeches of love, peace and harmony you have set us free. God knew best. Angels don't live here on earth. But I am so sure heaven is your home, a place where there is no sadness but just happiness. Dr. Martin Luther King you will never linger in my mind as God himself.

(Mrs.) GLADYS P. JONES

College Response

Dear AFRO:

I thank you so very much for carrying the story of the work of my department in the total framework of the operation of the Community College of Baltimore.

It may interest you to know that several people called me on Tuesday, Jan. 14, the very evening on which the paper appeared and several other people brought the clipping into the college on Wednesday morning. We have put the story into the scrapbook for the Office of Institutional Research.

MANUEL Q. GOLDSTEIN
Director, Institutional Research

POET'S NOOK

Charlie Parker Came To Dinner

The alto saxophone had Earl Bostic,
and Louis Jordan
But it needed a closer companion—
A new conductor on the A train;
A new sophistication for the Satin
Doll
Someone to unlog, a foggy-day in
London town;
The alto sax needed Charlie Parker.
So, Charlie Parker dropped in for dinner;
And with his recipe he cooked the
menu—
He was the difference between neck
bones,
And prime delmonico steaks—
David strokes his harp, Gabriel plays
his trumpet,
And every angel sings out in golden
articulation;
As Charlie Parker fills the sainted
streets of Heaven
With a divine jubilation.

PAUL D. McALLISTER

Political Notebook

Coming — Historic Mandel Act of 1969

By MAX JOHNSON

Maryland General Assembly's 162 Democrats have the body's 33 Republicans locked in an inescapable squeeze play, which historians gigglishly will undoubtedly record as — The Mandel Act of 1969.

The thing is a pure, unadultered expression of party power — and candidly admitted so by grinning Democrats.

At point is a necessary change in the state's Election Code — if the Democrats' new Gov. Marvin Mandel is to be authorized to make hundreds of appointments in the chief executive's customary "green bag" to the Assembly.

In addition to many, many salaried jobs — there are hundreds of boards and commissions posts worth their weight in patronage gold.

The Republicans' former Gov. Spiro T. Agnew loaded them up with his party members two years ago in his green bag appointments.

Democrats are out to get them back.

Republicans are fuming helplessly, but have little recourse at this point other than a lot of loud name-calling when anybody will stop to listen.

Quite simply — at issue is the Election Code definition of "majority party," the governor of which is empowered to make the green bag appointments.

The law now reads — "Majority party means the party whose candidate for governor received the highest number of votes at the last preceding general election."

Gov. Mandel didn't win office in the last general election. He was just elected by the General Assembly to replace the new Vice President Agnew — who did win the governorship in the last general election.

The Democrats have a few thinkers in their ranks, however, and they came up with a solution.

They prepared a Senate bill to amend the law as follows:—

"The majority party means the principal political party to which the incumbent governor belongs, if the incumbent governor is a member of one of the two principal political parties."

Then they labeled the measure an "Emergency Bill" to clear the way for quick passage in the Senate and House — so Gov. Mandel may meet the required deadline with his green bag.

Outraged Republicans charged the bill on both counts was unconstitutional — and demanded a ruling from the attorney general's office.

The Democrats' Attorney General Francis B. Burch, through his deputy Robert F. Sweeney, has just ruled that the Democrats' amendment is constitutional after all.

With it came a companion ruling that the General Assembly is empowered to decide what should be termed emergency legislation.

Republicans, before being turned off completely, might look in the direction of the Court of Appeals — hopefully for upset rulings.

Outlook is none too enticing, however.

The Democrats' former Gov. J. Millard Tawes loaded that court with his party judgeship appointments before he left office.

Angered Republicans, with the certain loss of hundreds of jobs boldly staring them in the face, have little left but long and loud oratory.

The amending legislation is what Gov. Mandel wants — and he quite frankly says so.

So The Mandel Act of 1969 — unique in substance in Maryland political history — is about to become a reality.

Examples of what it means are prominent on Baltimore's Liquor Board and at the Supervisors of Elections.

The three-man Liquor Board is composed of two Republicans, one a chairman, and a Democrat, and is integrated by Elmer O. Harris, Republican.

The GOP's David Shay is chairman, and Joseph G. Finnerty Jr. is the Democrat member.

The Mandel bill will change this picture to two Democrats and one Republican — by virtue of his majority party power.

At question then is which of the Republicans will go — Messrs. Harris or Shay or will the governor decide to name in place of Dr. Harris another black Democrat?

A similar situation exists on the three-member Board of Supervisors of Elections, where the Republicans' Marshall W. Jones Jr. is the lone black member and a veteran there.

Will Gov. Mandel, in changing the face of the board to two Democrats, keep Mr. Jones or appoint another black citizen of his Democratic party?

There arises at this agency still another bit of conjecture.

The Democrats' Loyal Randolph, long a political power in the black community, is a veteran chief clerk there.

Charles Dorsey, a Republican, is chief clerk. Mandel's majority party bill means the chief clerk job now goes to a Democrat.

Mr Randolph, who has long been performing virtually much of the chief clerk's work, is a close friend of Gov. Mandel — and has been for years.

Will the governor justifiably move Mr. Randolph up to the clerkship, or will he bring in a newcomer for Mr. Randolph to train?

* * *

All of the above mentioned jobs are salaried in the $8,500-plus bracket.

Gov. Mandel hasn't given hint of his intentions as to appointments and/or reappointments in their respect.

Multiply these situations in the state's 23 counties, add justices of peace, magistrates and a number of lesser but still important political plums, and some idea rises of the scope of what the Republicans are yelling about.

They had the law on their side — until The Mandel Act of 1969 came along.

The whole thing must be quite exasperating for the state's GOP leadership.

Meanwhile, black community leaders and lawmakers have the opportunity to remind Gov. Mandel that they supported and pressed for his election.

And that they are justly looking for a fair share of the jobs and appointments in his Mandel Act of 1969 green bag.

AFRO Credo

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in the need it fills in the present generation. It must always ask itself—

Whether it has kept the faith with the common people;

Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved and their future secured;

Whether it is fighting to get rid of slums to provide jobs for unemployed;

Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and condemn injustice and prejudice, or appreciate.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR. — 1920

Groppi says — Phil Taylor churches racist

FROM PAGE 1

The Rev. Fr. James Groppi, civil rights activist of Milwaukee, Friday night branded the Church in America as a "white racist institution."

He also challenged President Nixon to enforce the civil rights laws already on the books, especially since he is "the President elected on the theme of law and order."

Addressing an audience of 1,000 laymen, priests and nuns at the Washington Hilton, Fr. Groppi related his experiences in working for civil rights, in working with the black masses in his parish.

The militant priest caricatured the supreme pontiffs in the church hierarchy as well as the law-makers of the nation, employing a rhetoric of pungent sarcasm, irony and understatements.

"Orderly procedure and law and order are just words to disguise racism . . . The laws of this land have built a caste system around blacks, and orderly procedure doesn't work," he said.

Groppi, who participated in the Poor People's Campaign here, defying his superiors, said:

"We should have turned Washington upside-down during the Campaign and not tried to be nice and orderly. Congressmen have to be pressured before they will come across."

He called Nixon's appointment of Jerris Leonard as a political payoff for supporting Nixon's campaign stand on Vietnam. Groppi condemned Leonard as "a racist," belonging to the "racist Eagle's Club."

"The Church is a white institution that reflects white attitudes to which its bishops and priests respond just like congressmen to their constituents."

He depicted the church as a church-in-flight. Citing specific instances from the Midwest parishes, Groppi said that quite a number of priests and parishes in Midwest regions fled to the suburbs, abandoning the old church buildings in the midst of black masses.

He condemned the hierarchy for pacifying the priests and the people. "Why doesn't the church teach that discrimination is wrong and fight against it?"

Sympathizing with the dissident Catholic priests in Newark, Chicago and Washington, D.C., Groppi said that the priests will have to follow the dictates of their right convictions, and act accordingly.

He termed Stokely Carmicael and Rap Brown as "Black Freedom Fighters" and compared them to American heroes who fought against the British for independence.

He said the stealing and looting that occured during the riots were a "restitution" for the century-old oppression against the blacks in this country.

Groppi defined violence as "hunger. Violence is a racist jury; violence is a racist judge."

He referred to the late Dr. Martin Luther King as "one of the greatest Americans ... Instead of a St. Valentine, let us have a Saint Martin Luther King in the Church."

The meeting was sponsored by the Washington Lay Association, a group that works in close liaison with the Center for Christian Renewal, 1805 Kenyon St., NW.

FEB. 2

Baltimore Ethical Society, 3800 Gwynn Oak Ave., Howard Radest, executive director of the American Ethical Union speaks on "The Beatles and the Astronauts: New Approaches to Religious Celebrations" at 11 a.m.

POE CREDIT UNION met Tuesday in the Poe Auditorium. Officers and members included: (from left) Mrs. Alice Brock, Mrs. Thomasina Mitchell, Daniel Johnson, President Donald Young, Mrs. Gloria Webster (seated), Mrs. Myrtle McCullohs, Charles A Brock and Mrs. Agrathare Byrd.

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Warm, washable fiber "Orlon" acrylic pile in front w cotton [illegible] molded-front parka, [illegible] tached hood and [illegible] ing grained, [illegible] navy. Sizes 2 to 6.

GIRLS' JACKET AND SNOWSUIT SALE!

Choose from a great group. Infants' quilted snow jackets, including vinyl 100% nylon [illegible] prints and [illegible] reversible ski jackets, vinyls, in many styles. $6

BOYS' OUTERWEAR

Ski jackets, parkas and other popular jackets. Not all styles available in all sizes, but it's a varied group! Sizes 8-18. $4

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All permanent press long sleeve . . . sport shirts of 50% polyester 50% cotton solids, patterns . . . many styles in knits. Sizes 3 to 7. 3 FOR $4

GIRLS' 100% COTTON BETTER POLOS

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GIRLS' CLEARANCE

Cute young dresses for school, for parties . . . skirts, jumpers, slacks! Not all items in all sizes, but you'll find a big choice. $2, $3, $4

MEN'S PERMANENT PRESS DRESS SLACKS

Ivy with belt loops and cuffs. Continuous waistband. Nylon. No-iron Orlon® acrylic or rayon-polyester blend. 28-42. 2 FOR $11

BOYS' PERMANENT PRESS SPORT SHIRTS

By Jaytex® in soil release 65% polyester 35% cotton. Regular spread collar style in white and colors. Sizes 6-18. 2 FOR $3

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