A Hero In Our History

FREDERICK DOUGLASS — I am an American and as an American I would speak to America.

"Let us not seek to 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 15, 1969

Frederick Douglass

(1817-1895)

Dr. Benjamin Quarles, the distinguished author and Professor of History at Morgan State College, has edited the autobiography of Frederick Douglass. (Harvard University Press 1960.)

He calls Douglass a renowned orator, writer and lecturer, "the most prominent American Negro of the 19th century."

Today February 14, is the birthday of Frederick Douglass.

He was born a slave in Tuckahoe on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He lived to see his own people freed in 1863 and to become a public office holder under three Presidents.

Historians who have had a chance to read the Douglass biography agree that the words "black power" and "freedom fighter" were familiar ones used by this hero in our history.

The month of February is birthday time for many famous people—President Abraham Lincoln on the 12th, for example. But when we think of February birthdays, our thoughts go immediately to Frederick Douglass.

This Negro History Week, and in fact during the year, we recommend to young and old the books by and about the great statesman and abolitionist leader.

For the young, Arna Bontemps' story is particularly intriguing.

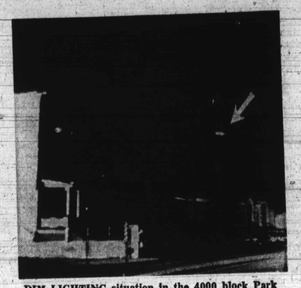
His book is entitled 'Frederick Douglass, Slave, Fighter, Free Man,' (Alfred A. Knopf, 1959)

And Dr. Quarles' book, already mentioned above, should be treasured by adults.

If anybody would ask us to pick out one of Frederick Douglass' most famous quotations, we would select these words which this newspaper printed on its masthead for many years: "I am an American and as an American I would speak to America. The colored man's pathway to the American ballot box, North and South must be as smooth and safe as the same is for the white citizen."

Action Line

ACTION LINE, a new AFRO community service, will help you solve problems, whatever they may be. All you have to do is write a post card to ACTION LINE, AFRO, 628 N. Eutaw St., P. O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203. In addition to starting the question you want answered, include your name, address and phone number. Then watch for the answer in the AFRO ACTION LINE each week because that is where the action is.



DIM LIGHTING situation in the 4000 block Park Heights Ave. where Gillis Memorial Christian Community Church is located, will be remedied as soon as possible, according to Walter Buckingham, head of the City Street Lighting Department. Only one light (arrow) is burning in the block. Inspectors were sent out Monday to recommend what should be done, within minutes after the AFRO presented the problem, the first to come to Action Line.

QUESTION — The light in front of Gillis Memorial Christian Community Church is the only one burning in the 4000 block Park Heights Ave. Because of darkness in the block some members are reluctant to attend night service and sents.

We've called the Gas and Electric Co. and City Street Lighting five or six times but it's still dark.

One of the members, Mrs. Annie Norman, fell last Tuesday and sprained her hip. We need something done NOW. — The REV. THEODORE C. JACKSON, JR., assistant pastor.

ANSWER — Walter Buckingham, head of City Street Lighting Division promised the AFRO he'd get Gas and Electric authorities to give your block between Shirley and Oswego Aves. special attention. Therefore the new mercury lights already installed will be burning "as soon as humanly possible," he states.

The city is at present changing from incadescent to mercury lighting from Park Circle to the City line and in the Gillis Church area about 200 new transformers must be installed. That's the holdup, technically.

• • •

QUESTION — I received my divorce decree in May, 1958 but lost it during moving to a new house. Can I get a copy somewhere? — Mrs. Norma Houston.

ANSWER — Why sure. Go to Room 410, the courthouse or write Clerk of the Circut Court, Room 410, Court house, Baltimore, Md. 21202.

Give names of both parties and an approximate date of the divorce decree. A payment of $2 has to be made in cash at the time you write or go down there.

• • •

QUESAION — What can be done about rats in the neighborhoodu They're as big as cats around here and drugstore pills and poison only make them fatter. — Mike McRae.

ANSWER — We called City Rodent Control, 752-2000, Ext. 2151 and chief John Childs is sending someone out today to determine where they're coming from and recommend the remedy.

Others troubled with rats, mice and bugs — may call or write Rodent and Insect Control, American Building, Room 509, Baltimore and South Sts., Baltimore, Md.

• • •

QUESTION — My five children and I are here in Baltimore while my husband is in Vietnam. Where do I take the kids for medical attention which is free to service men's families? — Mrs. Elsie Kearns.

ANSWER — For 24-hour service, free attention, hospitalization, medicine and the whole works except dental requirements, go to U. S. Veterans Administration Baltimore Hospital, 2900 Lock Raven Blvd.

Don't forget to take along your husband's name, rank, serial number and any other important data and papers.

You'll get a card for each child and you too, if you're ill. Then you can zip over there anytime day or night for expert care in emergencies or whatever, even if it's beans in their noses or a cut that needs only a bandaid.

Political Notebook

Annapolis—Maryland's Problem

By MAX JOHNSON

There is a disturbing annoyance about Annapolis that invariably strikes those who find trips to Maryland's capital unavoidable from time to time.

It's a fretful, will-o'-the wisp sort of thing that plagues one's mind like a nagging headache.

It falls like a dreary shadow over the visitor to what a lot of people who must live there refer to as a "quaint city" — a deliberate loose usage of both words — and remains until the visitor is several miles away.

To better determine just what gives rise to the uncomfortable feeling, the visitor has but to walk about a bit and look — then walk around the place some more and keep looking.

At open, some sewerage and a lot of cheap, gaudy paint.

These factors bring out a startling fact: —

The periodic visitor who can't get out of going to the place is invariably shocked somewhat to discover that Annapolis is one of the most overrated "quaint cities" in the East.

Actually, it isn't a city at all in the true sense of the word.

• • •

A squalid country town would be a better description.

The place does have sidewalks though — even if there aren't a half dozen blocks of the things wide enough for two people to walk side by side.

Maybe they don't need them, because, on second thought, everybody drives in Annapolis.

Wives who may live less than six blocks away from what they refer to as the business district — a lot of open space with about a dozen or more stores — drive to shop.

Husbands, somehow, find it more convenient to drive the other car to one of the two or three mannish-type pubs for their daily afternoon constitutional.

Youngsters and hippies with a marked aversion against walking seem to have an unnatural attraction to the automobile.

Everybody drives there.

Consequently, a parking place is as hard to find as a decent room — or a house in the place, for that matter.

• • •

Historians who have bothered to write about it say Annapolis was founded in 1649 by some lost Puritans up from Virginia, who didn't have the strength to go further.

The place looks fit, too. About the only things that have been added since are automobiles, dim street lights, more sewerage and a lot of cheap, gaudy paint.

The houses are of such vintage they rarely strip one for rehabilitation, fearful of starting a chain reaction of crumbling walls of adjoining structures.

General Assembly members who must be there for sessions by and large find the residents so unhospitable they are usually to be found in one of three places between committee meetings and sessions.

At a snack shop on the ground floor of the State House, a nearby bar or just lounging around aimlessly in their office or committee room.

Those who commute are in their cars five minutes after conclusion of their business for the day.

• • •

About the best thing that can be said for Annapolis is that it is on the Chesapeake Bay — even if it is the smelly, polluted portion of it.

That gives its residents with far away expressions some sense of movement elsewhere over distant horizons — however rooted there they may be.

The Bay gives a feeling of hope — but little in the Annapolis area by way of prime seafood.

They are reluctant to admit it — but I understand their better seafood is imported.

• • •

The black citizen, of course, can go to any public place in Annapolis — if he can find some place to go.

About the only places open after 9 o'clock in the evening are three movies, a couple of bars and a bus terminal.

Thirty years ago when trains were in their heyday, they used to run one to Annapolis.

The thing became so impractical — they took it off, while trains were still in their heyday.

Other than a necessary business trip — people just found it a too difficult mental exercise to think of a valid reason for going to the place.

No place is all repulsive, though — not even Annapolis.

There is the beautiful bit of green grass on the north and east sides of the State House.

There is the cheery broad walk up to the high fenced in Governor's Mansion behind a padlocked gate.

There are the multitude of boats on the waterfront that never seem to go anywhere.

Then — there are the nice smooth roads out of the place.

If an anonymous bill were to be placed before the current General Assembly to move the state capital from Annapolis, and the thing put to a secret vote — they would pass it with all the dispatch of a piece of emergency legislation.

This has been suggested more often than might be expected.

The idea being the state would gain two-fold!

Maryland would get a practical capital more in keeping with the times.

And Annapolis could become wholly the museum it partially is now.

Joseph P. Healy

Twenty-six years ago there was great unrest in Baltimore.

On April 24, 1942, 2,000 of us marched to Annapolis to ask the then Governor Herbert O'Conor to grant certain social reforms.

This was at a time when the Citizens Committee For Justice, the NAACP, the churches, labor unions, civic organizations, joined together under the banner of the Citizens' Committee for Justice.

Their common cause was equal opportunity in jobs and public facilities, a halt to police killings, colored men and women in uniform on the police department, colored magistrates and judges and representation on public boards and commissions, as well as support of the President's orders forbidding discrimination in war industries.

It was in this climate that Governor O'Conor appointed an 18-member biracial commission known as the Governor's Commission on Problems Affecting Colored People.

Joseph P. Healy, then an executive with a local meat firm and former banking commissioner, was named chairman.

When Mr. Healy died last week at the age of 85, we had occasion to go back in our newspaper library and refresh our memory about Baltimore in the 1940's.

It served to remind us that this city has been fortunate in having men and women of both races who are committed to doing the right thing and who often have gone out on a limb to support their views which were not necessarily popular.

Such a man was Mr. Healy.

Since this is Brotherhood Week, we think it appropriate to point out that as far back as May 9, 1944 it was Joseph Healy, speaking as chairman of the Governor's Commission on Problems Affecting Colored People, who recognized early the importance of pointing out to his fellow white citizens "at every opportunity" the "legal and moral responsibility that they have"—to work for a better city.

New Breed Businessman

Former Bethlehem Steel employee Randy Hall is part of a new breed of young, black American businessmen who are out to compete with the best.

Already owner of two small grocery stores, he opens the first of a chain of individually-owned supermarkets Saturday.

This one, part of the Ebony Supermarket Chain, is financed by a loan of about $78,000 from the Small Business Administration.

To work his way through the legal red tape to get the loan, Mr. Hall had the support of the Council of Equal Business Opportunity, which is having a tremendous influence on the development of colored-owned businesses here.

Mr. Hall assures that his new supermarket will be stocked just as are the major outlets. He will employ about 20 people.

Although his customers probably will be predominantly colored, it is the quality, quantity and prices of his goods, plus the service rendered, which will determine how successful Mr. Hall will be.

His years of training and the type help he has used in the planning of his business indicate he understands this and expects to be a success in competing in the mainstream.

Our Readers Say:

Kindness The Solution

Readers are invited to submit letters for publication. All letters must be signed but signature will be omitted if requested. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length. Address them to "Our Readers Say," Baltimore AFROAMERICAN, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore.

Dear AFRO:

The integration of white and black in a community is a very much talked about subject. We moved into an all "white" street in August, 1967. These are homes that are individual, well kept, and occupied by responsible people.

We are now looking forward to greeting our new next door neighbor on Friday, February 14.

In fact, the former neighbor was told to give our telephone number to the newcomer so they could call and give us their phone number.

We offered to keep an eye on their home until they moved in.

I am "white" and the new neighbors are "black." I have only told you this so you can understand my comments which follow: —

Let everyone of us stop talking of blockbusting, black ghettos or slums. All people are human beings and deserve a decent place in which to live. Responsibility of the person should be the main factor to consider, not color, creed, etc.

Can anyone of us help what we were born?

In certain areas of Baltimore it is true that more blacks are in need of immediate and better housing; therefore if they are able to purchase homes in better neighborhoods, the percentage of blacks is higher than whites due to their need to relocate.

In fairness to the realtors who have been criticized, remember, when conventional mortgage or FHA applications are turned down, it is the speculator who takes the responsibility of giving a person the chance to buy a home as long as the purchaser is responsible.

Unfortunately, the wage scale for many blacks is low, making it hard for them to make weekly payments as well as keeping the house in repair.

Honest cooperation is needed from all parties.

We need one clearing house for all questions and advice when needed.

There are too many committees now and it is very confusing. Just remember, slums are created by people.

Individual personal pride will keep any community decent. Try it. Give love and understanding and kindness to your fellow man. Money won't buy this and many need it. A much better world would be in the making.

(MRS.) MARION B. BERNSTEIN

Open Letter To Mandel

Dear AFRO:

Open letter to Gov. Marvin Mandel:

You have appointed Rev. James E. Thomas to be your advisor on matters concerning the black community.

I'm appalled by your selection and your method of selection, and I'm not alone in this concern.

For many, many years the organizations I represent have worked for the betterment of our community as a whole; in addition to our work for the Democratic Party. Our position in supporting you for public office in the past is a matter of record.

As a result of your unwise appointment, I'm beginning to have some doubts about your stewardship of the state, and from the calls I have received from other organizations and members of the community, they too share the same doubts.

Rev. Thomas is a relatively newcomer to the Fifth District.

In fact most of his time has been spent outside of Maryland affairs. He has gained neither the respect nor the confidence of the community.

In the meantime, I will be watching closely, as will the entire public, for your 1970 bid for governorship may be in jeopardy.

(MRS.) CATHERINE MUELLER
President, Democratic Ladies Guild

No Influence?

Dear AFRO:

I understand the governor does not have the right to appoint a person of his choice, to fill a vacancy in the Maryland General Assembly.

But who denies that Gov. Mandel has influence with the State Central Committee and the controlling political committee and the controlling political party and is a wheel in the 5th

EARL KOGER SR.

Another Valentine

I took long-stemmed roses
But received no embrace
She and her fellow smiled at me
And put them in a vase.
It was so nice to call on her
Regardless of her beau
For just the thought of seeing her
Electrified me so.
And they were wed, to my dismay
He looked so smooth — and did she shine
They went off on their honeymoon
And sadly; I was left behind.
But I have got her photograph
Which still gives me a lift —
Some letters and some souvenirs
And a pink silk handkerchief.
And though I have sweet memories
That are no less than devine
My heart impatiently implores
Why not another valentine?

Rendezvous On Chalk Point Road

Pardon this intrusion
But I'm going your way
Didn't mean no confusion
But It's such a nice day.

I saw many faces
Out here by the highway
Going so many places
Some, perhaps my way.

You never would have guessed
That I was playing on a swing
And as the world progressed
I hadn't done anything.

You seem pretty sure
Of the route you're taking
And whatever's in store
Could be less than earth shaking.

But poet, wait for me
And we'll discuss things like deeds
For it's a pleasure to see you
On the road that leads.

PAUL D. MC ALLISTER

Full Steam Ahead

Hopefully the Baltimore Opportunity Industrialization Center has put aside the wrangling and geared itself up so that it can serve the training needs of many of the people of the community.

With the help of the national OIC, the local organization has expanded its board, elected a new president and agreed on its true mission.

This is one of the most worthy programs in existence to train people for jobs which are available and which pay them better than a poverty-level wage.

In nearly 75 cities it has proven its value. Its alumni are working in impressive numbers on the jobs they trained for at OIC.

As in other cities, Baltimore has had fine support from area businesses also stands a chance of soon getting assistance from the Federal Government. With its problems ironed out, it can.

It is not unusual for disputes and hard feelings to develop when volunteer workers are anxious to make a program work.

However, having experienced the stagnation and bitterness that grow out of fights within the organization, it is to be hoped that Baltimore OIC has learned its lesson.

The churches, businesses and community all stand to gain from a healthy and effective OIC here. None of them gains when their talents are wasted fighting each other.

Praiseworthy Appointment

Gov. Marvin Mandel got his appointments back on a solid foundation with the colored community by making his second selection of an aide a man who has the approval of the community's elected officials.

The governor not only now has recognized the importance of giving voice to the community, but in making Deputy U. S. Attorney Arthur G. Murphy Sr. his number one aide, he took a big step toward undoing the bitterness resulting from his earlier action.

Mr. Murphy is a young Baltimorean who has developed and broadened his outlook with experience and maturity.

He should make the state a valuable public servant as the governor's senior staff executive for community relations and the administration of justice.

Mandel's proposal to give teeth to the Maryland Human Relations Commission is another of the new state executive's praiseworthy moves.

A stronger commission, prodded by a staff aide with legal training, should bring about some of the changes other states are making while Maryland drags its feet. The lawards include some state agencies.

Hopefully, Gov. Mandel and colored elected officials now have worked out a mutual understanding on appointments which will assure that his choices will be men and women the community feels will best represent their interests and that of the state.

AFRO Credo

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 the faith with the common people;

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

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 injustices and prejudice, or compromise.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR. — 1920

Mayor, new Council praised by Nixon

Mayor Walter E. Washington begins a new four-year term as Mayor of the Nation's Capital with a revised City Council and the expressed support of President Richard M. Nixon.

At a swearing-in ceremony for Mayor Washington, who took the oath of office for his second term, Thursday, President Nixon declared a strong local government rather than Federal help is the key to solving urban problems.

At the same time, President Nixon announced the appointment of three new members of the City Council, ending a long controversy over who would get the positions.

Gilbert Hahns Jr. and Sterling Tucker were named an assistant secretaryCouncil chairman and vice chairman, respectively, and the Rev. Jerry A. Moore Jr., was appointed to the third spot.

Hahn, chairman of the Republican Central Committee, replaces John W. Hechinger as chairman of Democratic majority, and a 6-3 racial division, with six colored members.

At the swearing-in ceremony, President Nixon reiterated his often expressed view that local government must be strengthened to solve the multiple problems of the city.

The president praised the record of Mayor Washington who was first appointed Mayor by former President Lyndon B. Johnson.

• • •

Nixon went on to assert that all posible federal action for the cities would come to nothing "without strong local government and support of the people of these cities."

He pledged to Mayor Washington and the City Council of the Nation's Capital — which the president appoints, as well as the Mayor — that he would give them his fullest support in their efforts to make the District of Columbia "a model city for the entire country and the world."

—Green bag

FROM PAGE 1

GILBERT HAHN JR.

STERLING TUCKER

REV. JERRY A. MOORE

MAYOR WASHINGTON

worker and member of the city's Second District Democratic State Central Committee, played a key role in the past city council election of Robert L. Douglass in trat District.

• • •

On the sensitive Liquor Board, Joseph H. Strickland, 4022 Garrison Blvd., was named as one of three Democrats replacing the Republican Elmer O. Harris, first to integrate that board under the Agnew administration.

These were the only appointments from the black community in Baltimore City.

• • •

In Anne Arundel County, Dr. Delores C. Hunt, 100 Cherry Lane Rd., Glen Burnie, was named as a Republican substitute to the Board of Supervisors of Elections.

There were no black faces readily discernible among 30 appointments to 20 state-wide boards and commissions.

It was not considered an admirable start by Gov. Mandel, who had promised earlier a broad integration of the state boards and commissions.

• • •

Several board and commission appointments were bypassed, however, including three expiring terms on the Maryland Human Relations Commission. An aide to the governor said these and some others would be down in three or four days.

Gov. Mandel said, under questioning Thursday morning at his press conference, he had decided on a chairman of the Human Relations Commission, but would not reveal his name.

When asked when that announcement would be ready, the governor said:

"I have been talking to some people and we just haven't been able to get a definite commitment yet. As soon as I do, I will announce it."

• • •

A bit of maneuvering between Senators Verda F. Welcome and Clarence M. Mitchell III went into the Strickland appointment and the apparent retention of Mr. Jones on the elections board.

Mr. Strickland, an inspector with the Liquor Commission, had drawn considerable credit to himself in a clean-up campaign of alcholic beverage establishments in Northwest Baltimore.

He was offered, it was learned, the chief inspector's job, which earns about $1,000 more in salary that the $6,500-a-year board post.

He is said to have more strongly desired the board spot.

He was the choice of Senator Mitchell, while Senator Welcome sought to retain Mr. Jones on the elections board.

They compromised on Mr. Strickland and Mr. Jones, and Mr. Harris was dropped.

Whether Mr. Harris will be offered the chief inspectorship is undetermined at this time. Senator Welcome said she was still undecided on her selection for this post.

Party did not play a main role in Gov. Mandel's appointments. A top job in his green bag appointment to the Workmen's Compensation Commission, was a reappointment of a Republican, William R. Hughes, a Baltimore attorney.

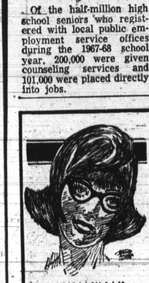
The city Liquor Board will undergo a change. In addition to Mr. Strickland, James L. McCully, a Democrat, was named chairman, replacing the Republican's David Shay, while another Democrat, Edward B. Rybczynski, was named to replace Joseph L. Finnerty Jr., also a Democrat.

On the Supervisors of Elections, Mrs. Betty M. Silbert, a veteran Democratic member, was reappointed.

The new Democratic member is Frank Cannizzaro.

The nominations have been labeled "green bag" appointments because they are actually sent down to the Senate from the governor's office in a green bag.

Of the half-million high school seniors who registered with local public employment service offices during the 1967-68 school year, 200,000 were given counseling services and 101,000 were placed directly into jobs.



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National names Julien supervisor

The National Brewing Co. today announced the appointment of Victor Julien as District Sales Supervisor in the company's City Sales Department.

Mr. Julien will have marketing responsibility for National Beer, Colt 45 Malt Liquor and National Premium Beer in an assigned district in metropolitan Baltimore.

A native of New York City, Mr. Julien, who is 29, was graduated from that city's Harran High School in 1957. In 1962, he received a B.S. degree from Baltimore's Morgan State College.

From 1962 to 1965 he served with the New York Department of Health as a Health Insvector.

In December of 1965, he joinel National as a Sales Representative in the company's Baltimore City Sales Department and held that post until assuming his presdent position.

While attending Morgan, he was a letter winner in swimming and member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. He is currently active in the Baltimore crapter of the Prince Hall Masonic Order and the Baltimore Marketin gClub.

Mr. Julien and his wife, Mabeline currently reside in the Northwood section of Baltimore.

National, whose corporate offices are in Baltimore, is the 16th largest brewery in the country and overates breweries in Baltimore, Miami, Detroit, and Phoenix.

Their principal product is Colt 45 Malt Liquor which is marketed in all 50 states as well as in military bases overseas.

In Texas

WICHITA FALLS, Tex. — Airman Richard W. Sessions, son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace R. Sessions Sr. of 3435 Mondawmin Ave., Baltimore, has been graduated from a U.S. Air Force technical school at Sheppard AFB, Calif.

The airman is a graduate of Baltimore City College.

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UNTRIMMED COAT CLEARANCE
Solids, herringbones, plaids, tweeds in this season's most wanted fashions. Not all sizes and colors in all styles. Sizes 5-15, 8-18, 16½-24½.
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Some jumpers and skirts included. Many to choose from. Assorted colors. Sizes 3-6x, 7-14.
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65% polyester, 35% cotton. Regular spread collar. Soil release. White and colors. In sizes 6 to 18.
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