What The AFRO Stands For

Equal justice, not only in theory, but in fact before courts of the city.

Adequate black representation on all public boards and commissions of Maryland cities, counties and the state itself, including colleges and universities.

Extensive and untrammeled black political power.

Equal job opportunities in fact as well as theory.

Equal housing opportunities in fact as well as theory.

Black judges on all benches of the city, county and state court systems, except those constitutionally authorized.

A black owned and operated taxicab company.

A black owned and operated bank.

A black majority on Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners.

"Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of hate and bitterness." — MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Nail-Biting Time

In Baltimore, it is the story of life for the sports fan. It is nail-biting time again.

The Bullets have won their way into the finals of the National Basketball Association championship playoffs, and are now engaged in an historic showdown with the Milwaukee Bucks.

At this stage, the cage crazy are in much the same position as were the baseball bugs in October, and the football fanatics in December.

This is basketball's equivalent to the World Series and/or the Super Bowl.

In October, it was the so-called "Big Red Machine" from Cincinnati which had to be throttled.

In December, some unruly Cowboys from Texas needed lassoing.

Now it comes time to turn a stampede of Bucks on the trail from Wisconsin.

Since this is Baltimore, it is certain that — whether the Bullets succeed or fail — the fans will be left with emotions drained and ulcers thriving. Our town won't have it any other way.

A follower of pro sports here is equipped with built-in insurance.

If one has a heart condition of any kind or degree, it doesn't take him long to find out about it.

He either collapses — or bites his nails.

Taxi Fares Go Up

Last Sunday, if you traveled by taxi a distance of one mile from your home to church, the fare was 55 cents. This Sunday it will cost 70 cents.

The new taxi rates effective this week mean that a two-mile trip which cost 80 cents will now be $1.00; three miles $1.05, now $1.30; four miles, $1.30, now $1.60; five miles $1.55, now $1.90.

These new fares were approvd by the City, Service Commission after taxi owners said increased revenue was necessary to meet mounting expenses.

In addition to the per mile increase, the base flag rate also goes up. This means that when you step in a taxi the flag goes up at 50 cents, before it was 35 cents. And, if you call a cab it will cost you 25 cents instead of 15 cents.

No one is in a position to say whether the new rates will solve the taxi owners' problems.

Certainly they don't solve the concerns which black taxicab applicants have put before this same City Service Commission.

Their claim is that Baltimore taxi service is inadequate, particularly in the black community, and they request the commission to grant them licenses.

The degree to which the new fares will solve the problem will be governed by whether or not the requests of these concerned black taxi drivers are resolved.

We're Worried About Marvin

We are becoming more and more concerned about Gov. Marvin Mandel.

His attitude toward the black community is at best disappointing.

He appears to be adopting a stance of listening to leaders with a deaf ear.

When black citizens put aside their first reluctance and rallied last year to support his election as Maryland's chief executive, they saw him as the available candidate most likely to prove a friend.

They thought they had helped send to Annapolis a man of a minority race who, at least, would be sensitive to the desired progress of another minority.

Now, we are not so sure — and for very good reason.

Last Friday, the governor announced the appointment of a 15-member committee to develop rules, regulations and procedures governing state assumption of the cost of school construction in the state.

This is to launch implementation of legislation passed by the General Assembly this year to have the state assume school construction costs in Baltimore City and the 23 countries.

The governor overlooked the black community, and named an all-white committee.

It is not too difficult to envision that a large number of the new schools to come will be erected in black communities. A substantial number are planned already for Baltimore City, which is nearly half black.

This must stand as another goof by Gov. Mandel, who started out by overlooking the black community in setting up his 11 cabinet-level departments.

And just Monday, the governor again disappointed his black supporters and well-wishers.

The Assembly passed legislation expanding the Maryland Special Court of Appeals from five to nine members. One of the new members was designated to come from Baltimore City.

The black community's David T. Mason, state director of parole and a former assistant attorney general, was on the list recommended by the governor's own Appellate Judicial Selection Commission.

Gov. Mandel looked the other way and named his former law partner, Richard P. Gilbert.

The Maryland Court of Special Appeals has no black judges. Actually, there are no black judges in Maryland, other than on the Supreme Bench and Municipal Court in Baltimore, and a circuit court in Prince Georges County.

The governor lost a marvelous opportunity to move Maryland forward in these historic times, forward in the rapid move toward fair representation.

But, the governor goofed again.

We are becoming more and more concerned about Gov. Mandel.

Welcome To AMEs

The great African Methodist Episcopal Church has a rich heritage in our state.

With the meeting of the 155th Baltimore Annual Session here this week it is fitting pause to remember some of the great men in African Methodist Church history.

We think particularly of the Maryland-born Bishop Daniel Coker, who organized Bethel Church in Baltimore and in 1816 played a conspicuous part in the creation of the AME Church.

And later of the great Bishop W. Sampson Brooks, a giant in our community, who served as pastor of Bethel AME Church and elevated to the episcopric in 1920 while serving here. Baltimoreans will long remember his successful rally for $33,000 to save Bethel.

Of Bishop Thomas M. D. Ward who served in 1868 and Alexander W. Wayman who served from 1845 to 1895.

And another Maryland son, James A. Handy, bishop of the church in 1892 who served until his death in 1911.

This week's convention sees a new face in the person of the Rt. Rev. Wilbur H. Murph, named last year to succeed the late Bishop George W. Baber who served our Second Episcopal area with distinction for 24 years.

The AFRO is happy to welcome Bishop Murph and the 1,000 delegates and visitors because we remember fondly many years of happy association with the revered AME churchmen of yesteryear.

Open Enrollment

Those who have struggled in our city for over four decades to provide quality educational opportunities for all have a right to be disturbed by suggestions that our public schools now return to a form of districting as opposed to the present policy of open enrollment.

Open enrollment means that any secondary pupil may attend the school of his choice. He is not confined to a school in his own neighborhood.

There is reason for this. Historically, black children have attended inferior schools — inferior in equipment and curriculum — in the core of the city.

When the new and better equipped schools open, under open enrollment, they may study there.

We can understand problems envisioned with the opening of five new high schools and the projection that they will be overpopulated while the older inner high schools will be underpopulated.

This, however, is no reason to return to the outdated districting.

There are alternatives. One is the magnet plan as proposed by Commissioner Larry Gibson which will have special course offerings to attract students.

We hope school officials, in concert with the community, will find an agreeable solution to the overcrowding problem.

It would be a disaster to disturb an open enrollment program.

AFRO Credo

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in I'self, in God and in the present generation. It must always ask itself—

Whether it has kept the faith with the common people;

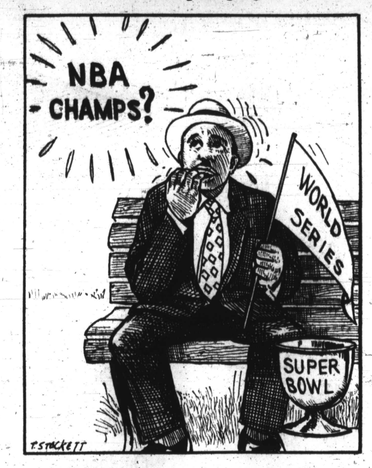
Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved and their future assured;

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 injustices and prejudice, and the cowardice of compromise.

John H. Murphy Sr.
—1929

Let's Keep Hoping



OUR READERS SAY

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 AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

VISTA Disturbed

Dear AFRO:

A new mania has beset our federal government centralization for its own sake.

President Nixon has declared the need for an "Action" agency which merges VISTA, the Peace Corps, Foster Grandparents and other unrelated volunteer groups.

We, as VISTA volunteers and as supporters of the National VISTA Alliance, oppose this unnecessary administrative juggling conveniently shrouded in patriotic and idealistic (but empty) rhetoric.

Reorganization takes VISTA out of OEO, where it shares an anti-poverty focus with legal services and community action programs.

This move is a step toward dismantling OEO and relegating anti-poverty programs to research rather than action.

Most important, the President speaks of local problems while neglecting to even mention the participation of local people, i.e., the community volunteer.

The President has indicated he will seek an additional twenty million dollars partly to cover costs of reorganization. We are appalled that such an amount should be appropriated for a poorly planned administrative move. These funds could be used instead to improve existing programs.

President Nixon states, "We must take full advantage of the lessons of the past decade."

One lesson he has not yet accepted is that change offering little else than a new name and a bright package of vague promises will only yield a new stage of bureaucracy and more angry Americans. We urge all Baltimoreans to oppose this unjust and unnecessary proposal.

VISTA VOLUNTEERS

A Man's World?

Dear AFRO:

The article, "It's Not a Man's World," by Bernice S. White, is to be complimented on the MOST part. I received some knowledge that I am delighted to get, and I want the writer to know that later. I shall write and assist her in the attempts of various ones trying to BRAINWASH most of the black women.

For now, I must stand on my convictions and say one thing, IT IS A MAN'S WORLD, BUT most women are trying to rule it, indirectly.

I say again, Bernice S. White is to be complimented.

REV. G. S. McGUIRE

Won't Solve Things

Dear AFRO:

There's much talk about training men and women, to get them off welfare rolls. But nowhere do I see if private employers need these people to operate profitably.

If private industry doesn't need them, will government (city, state, federal) make employment possible?

Or will government change the rules, tax structures, subsidize (?), so private employers can hire more and still make a profit?

Fooling around with the thermometer doesn't change the temperature and this same kind of tomfoolery won't solve anything!

B. J. SMALL

Attorney General Says

Dear AFRO:

I write to express my thanks to the AFRO's school reporter Paul Evans for his very generous participation in the High School Conference on Crime at Randallstown.

His very timely remarks to, and discussions with the students contributed materially to the success of the conference.

FRANCIS B. BURCH
Attorney General

On Social Service

We are writing to express our concern about the recent trend in cutting social service positions which affects jobs and services to many thousands of people in Maryland.

The recent announcement of one social worker to (90) service cases is a step backward. To insure constructive delivery of services, a more realistic ratio might be one social worker to 35 service cases.

It occurs to us, that a person in a position of responsibility and importance, such as the position of secretary of Social Service and Employment Security, might find it helpful to consult the givers of service (social workers) as well as the consumers of services (recipients) before making changes that affect so many people.

We are requesting that the cut in the Social service positions be reviewed and restored by June 1, 1971. We are further requesting that the givers of service (social workers) and consumers of service (recipients) be used more as consultants in the DSS and ES rather than continuing the current practice of one person establishing and implementing policy that affects thousands o lives.

Committee To Maintain
Good Social Service Practice

Political Notebook

Slim Chance City Council—

BY MAX JOHNSON

MR. JOHNSON

While early attention is being focused on who may be Baltimore's next mayor — the next City Council must share a commanding portion of the spotlight.

However of good intentions and efforts of a mayor — a recalcitrant Council can render him all but immobile.

So — some early prospects and thinking toward the new City Council to be elected this fall in the municipal elections are in order.

The first glaring conclusion that jumps to attention is that this outgoing one will, undoubtedly, be the last majority body of rank conservatism to legislate for this city.

Its passing should go unwept.

• • •

By and large — this Council has exhibited a lack of progressive thinking that is little short of amazing.

Along with this has been a too often display of clownish activities not in keeping with decorum expected of that legislative body.

This, while somewhat of a blanket indictment, is far from one dealing in any personal attacks.

There are some good representatives in this current City Council — and by the same token there are a lot of behind-the-times thinkers.

If they really, the latter that is, reflect the thinking of their constituents — then some of the leaders must pause to take a long second look at this city.

What is reflected too often on the floor of this Council may be meant to be honest difference of opinion — but comes out in a wave of disgusting silliness.

• • •

Now stands time for change in this Council — opportunity in the coming elections.

So — what is foreseeable?

The Council presently has four black members: Mrs. Victorine Q. Adams, Robert C. Marshall and Dr. Emerson R. Julian from the 4th District, and Robert L. Douglass from the 2nd.

Black representation will for the three seats in the 4th — and surely increase for the three seats in the 2nd.

Actually — the 2nd District with a majority of black voters can elect whom they want.

I envision two black representatives and a progressive thinking white councilman. This label automatically excludes the two white councilmen now representing that district.

This, then, would raise to six seats progressiveness in the new Council — with the 2nd and 4th Districts.

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There are 18 seats for the city's six districts — and a Council president.

The next more logical district to look to for new blood is the 5th. It's makeup now is one liberal, one moderate who will not run again — and one conservative.

This has been traditionally a Jewish district — but its vastly changed residency in the past several years now gives it a black tinge.

look to for new blood is the 5th. Its one white progressive-thinking one — come results of the fall elections.

That gives us nine on the plus side.

• • •

Forget about the 1st and 3rd Districts.

The 1st is steeped in backward thinking—politics of a bygone era — one that precludes modernization beyond a new front to a tavern.

The 3rd is composed primarily of die-hard white conservatives who are trying desperately to cling to an entrenched feeling of racial superiority.

Most would just love to leave Baltimore to its black citizens — but are too poor to do so and live with a degree of class among white county residents.

The 1st and 3rd, then, are six seats on the minus side — in respect to hope for new Council progressive thinking.

• • •

That leaves the 6th District for foreseeable consideration.

This district is currently in the representation column of the 1st and 3rd — but there is a glimmer of hope.

First off — newly changed district boundaries now give this area a slightly over 40 percent black population.

This is sufficient to either elect a black Council representative — or a white progressive thinking one.

There are, however, two stumbling blocks.

One is that rival black leadership in this district long has posed a problem for a unified front.

Second, is that there are few progressive thinking whites in this district interested in public office.

• • •

But — there remains a glimmer of hope that at least one representative of modern-day thinking would get to the new Council.

That possibility would give us 10 on the plus side.

Finally — stands the new Council president.

The person who will win will be by city-wide vote.

Present makeup of the city as a whole by way of overall voter registration would just about dictate that the winning candidate lean far more toward progressive thinking than conservatism.

So —this would give us 11 seats on the plus side, with 8 on the minus point.

Let's hope it works out that way.

ODDS and ENDS

By Paul Evans

MR. EVANS

Put on your MUST reading list: **Blueschild Baby** by George Cain. It has been called by one critic, "The most important work of fiction by an Afro-American since Native Son."

Also: **Out of Their League** by Dave Meggyesy tells the story of a linebacker with the St. Louis Cardinals, who recently quit the game at the height of his career, then decided to tell ALL.

• • •

With hopeful signs of improved relations between the U.S. and the people of the Chinese mainland, more citizens, especially more black citizens, will have an opportunity to explore the worlds of the vast Asian subcontinent.

If you do a little research the real triumphs and accomplishments of China's past years will come to light. The nation's late imperial era (1865-1911) was one of the most traumatic in history.

• • •

Foreign intrusions, civil wars and court intrigue all played a decisive role in the eventual fall of the Manchu dynasty and the founding of the Chinese Republic by Dr. Sun Yat-sen in 1911.

• • •

Census figures for 1970 allege that the proportion of black families headed by women increased sharply in the 1960s at a level three times greater than that of whites.

Socalled "authorities" have earmarked this reported increase of black matriarchy as a present and continuing barometer of social decline and deterioration of the black family. Remember Patrick Moynihan's "study" of the Negro family?

• • •

I'm just waiting to hear the programs of George Russell, William D. Schaefer, Clarence Mitchell III and Walter (Wally) Orlinsky, et al, if any, on their plans to stabilize the neighborhoods and provide a broader tax base for the city. The upcoming primary should be a hell of a fight.

Even more interesting is to see who runs on whose ticket. Or, shall I even infer, who is walking around to drop out of the mayoralty for a place on a ticket — or even something else?

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If you can, get a copy of **Great Songs of the Sixties**. It has the piano and guitar accompaniments to all of the great songs of the past whole of a decade. The series also comes in about eight stereo records in a box.

• • •

The peace marches in Washington this week will end in a gigantic rally tomorrow (Saturday, April 24). A large percentage of those participating will be Vietnam veterans.

Isn't it interesting that in no other war in this nation's short history have substantial groups of veterans returned directly from the front lines to and said to the President, their legal Commander-in-Chief: "This war is WRONG!"

But so many older American patriots feel my generation is a cowardly one. Let's stop the bull crap. If OUR country were attacked today, the enlistment boards would have to fight to keep the outpouring of young men down to "within wartime LIMITS."

• • •

The plight of the veterans returning from Vietnam is tragic. But the plight of the black Vietnam veteran has passed from being tragic to being dangerous.

Men of black skins, denied their dignity at home, went off to fight a white man's war, hoping to gain something for their egos to handle upon returning home.

If and when they do get home in one piece WITH THEIR MINDS STILL INTACT, they still have the sickness of white racism with which to contend.

• • •

I'll never forget John "Buzzy" Whittington; John Feaster, Douglas Bryant and a thousand others; friends with whom I went to school who either came home from Vietnam with a limb or fingers gone or NOT AT ALL.

This is God-made human life wasted on a vainglorious, insensible, unconstitutional American foreign policy.

And then after all this, people in this nation like Richard Nixon, Spiro Agnew, John Mitchell, Ronald Reagan and George Wallace; people in this state like Wilson Elkins, president U. of Md. and Dale Anderson; Baltimore County executives, people in this city like Hyman Pressman, Reuben Caplan, Robert Karwacki and Marce Farring expect to be the ones to TELL US WHAT KIND OF FUTURE WE SHALL HAVE AS A PEOPLE OF COLOR.

TOGETHER

Less Rap And More Hard Work

By MADELINE MURPHY

MRS. MURPHY

In the re-districting approved by the mayor on April 1 — which in this writer's estimation is the Revised Caplan Plan — as usual, the 6th District holds the dirty end of the stick.

In any plan, the politicos are not so much interested in population figures as they are in high vote turnout precincts.

To control a wider range of votes to increase political power the realistic method of dividing districts is to spread the power.

As example of this is the back and forth juggling of the 24th Ward. In 1966 it was moved from the 6th to the 1st.

Now it's been moved, all 15,000 whites back into the 6th. The 4th was given the black voting precincts of the 18th and 19th Wards from the 6th and a few more black precincts were added to the 6th in the 20th Ward.

Since the 24th Ward, Locust Point, is the home territory of Dominic Leone and the Stonewall Democratic Club (McGuirk), as one chunk of voter turnout it can hold power over all of the 6th, reinforce it (as with the huge political turnout in recent [illegible] McHenry and the proposed expressway route), and keep a [illegible] stranglehold along with the First (6 votes rather than 3), over the City Council.

Jesus could be mayor and be blocked by the conservative racist vote guaranteed by the Caplan Plan!

• • •

To make matters worse, the low status the 6th District holds in the minds of the newly acquired voters in the 20th Ward, along with the shifting boundaries which cause voter apathy, indecision and frustration, will guarantee Hines, Leone and Myers a free ride in 1971 into the Council UNless

Voters will make friends, neighbors, residents in the 6th, eager to be registered from now until Aug. 13 or unless —

Voters come out and vote at a rate of 50 per cent — 70 per cent in the Primary election September 15, 1971, or unless —

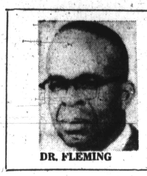
Volunteers will watch polling places all day Election Day to keep the crooks in every white precinct from stealing their hard won votes, or maybe —

• •

I'm just dreaming and the 6th is lost to the bigots forever.

It's a crazy idea, but if those 200-250 who shouted and wailed and invaded the council meeting March 29, agreed to do any of the things listed above, (less rap and more hard work), 6th district councilmanic representation might not be a dream after all.

Senator Mitchell In Or Out?


DR. FLEMING

with G. JAMES FLEMING

Right now life would be simpler and happier for thousands, including mayor-aspirant George Russell — if State Senator Clarence Mitchell would, or could, say loudly and unequivocally that he will not be a candidate for mayor this time.

Politics being what it is—absolutely practical—it will be next to impossible for either Russell or Mitchell to win the primary (on September 14), if both are candidates.

If other black candidates throw their hats in the ring, or keep them there, the hopes of a black mayor will be even more endangered. Those hopes will vanish.

• • •

Russell and Mitchell must be considered firm, serious aspirants, with Russell enjoying the advantage of having actually entered the race and having already shown that he has a broad following. This following places behind him all segments of the city, regardless of economic standing, race, religion, sex or age.

Both Russell and Mitchell are men of experience in public affairs and in civic matters. Both have supported the civil rights thrust. Mitchell is long in legislative exposure; Russell is long in legal, judicial and administrative involvement. Russell has the advantage in formal training.

Both are on the young side, in their thirties. Both are several cuts above most candidates for public office in Baltimore.

But, and a big "but" it is. There is room for only one mayor in 1971.

There is opportunity for only one black to be elected, but this historic achievement—bigger than Russell or Mitchell, as individuals—cannot come to pass with both as candidates in the primary.

This column has said more than once that this is a free country, but there is both freedom to run for office and freedom not to run.

Senator Mitchell, at this time, could make a real contribution to the public interest and the racial good by, like Coolidge, declaring "I do not choose to run." Or, in the spirit of the original Brooklyn Dodgers, he might say mesmingfully, "Wait 'til next time."

Up to now, Senator Mitchell is a rightful aspirant. If he actually enters the primary, he will be taking his place among "the spoilers"—those who know they cannot win, but who enter a race to prevent another from winning.

This can be put another way. A "spoiler" is a so-called "candidate" who "sells out" to help "A" to win and "B" to lose, while acting as if he is, truthfully, a serious candidate.

Dr. Lillie M. Jackson's grandson would not look well wearing the robes of a "spoiler"—preventing a worthy fellow black from rising into a higher office of service to the people.

Of course, Mr. Mitchell may just be bargaining; playing hard to get, so that someone may "tap" him for something big, now or in the future.

There are other practical questions to the coming mayoralty contest. Here again, Russell can have little sleep. How to put together a ticket attractive to blacks, Jews, and white Gentiles; to hard hats and white-collars; to the establishment and to the masses.

How to attract substantial white voters who, otherwise, might vote for a white nominee, just because he is white.

How to keep some Jewish support, even if a Jewish candidate enters the mayoralty race, as Donald William Shefer, president of City Council, seems sure to do.

How to inspire massive turnout of black voters and their support, even from those blacks who do not think "now is the time" for a black mayor.

How to find just the politically right persons as his teammates—to fill the offices of president of City Council and of Comptroller.

But, of all political goings-on, most important to Mr. Russell and his supporters would be those golden words from Senator Mitchell: "I do not choose to run," or, "I shall not run this time."

NOW AND THEN

In the 1920s, President Calvin Coolidge assured himself a third footnote in history when, in response to urgings that he run for a second term, he replied (at a press conference): "I do not choose to run."

If this observer has been hearing correctly, Baltimore's black voters believe that their best chances to elect one of their own, in 1971, is to concentrate on nominating George Russell.

They believe, too, that his chances of winning, both in the primary and in the mayoralty election, is greater than any other serious black aspirant, including Senator Mitchell. This they believe, despite the senator's large following of younger people.

• • •

They do not believe that Mitchell can even raise the money for mayoralty campaign (His last two money-raising endeavors have fallen quite short of their mark!)

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IF YOU Ask Me

BY BETTYE MOSS

MRS. MOSS

More About People, Things

Cuff note: Dr. Irene Diggs, professor of sociology at Morgan State College in Baltimore, delivered fourth and final lecture on W.E.B. DuBois at the University of Delaware.

Her lecture was entitled:

"DuBois, Women and Children."

Previous lectures by Dr. Diggs at Delaware have been on the life and writings of DuBois, DuBois' relationship with Marcus Garvey, and DuBois' part in the founding of the Pan African Congress.

• • •

Baltimore man who heads the new abortion clinic in Washington which is very much in the news these days is Dr. James Reader. His clinic is at 2715 Eye St., NW.

Dr. Reader is a 1951 Douglass High graduate, a graduate of Temple University Pharmacy School, the California College of Medicine and the University of London.

He is the son of Mrs. Ethel Saddler Echols, formerly of Baltimore, now in Riverside, California, and the late James M. Reader.

A Baltimore man is Mrs. Sarah Savage of Norfolk Ave.

A half sister is Mrs. Mary E. Friday of Lexington, N.C.

• • •

Bar Mitzvah is the Jewish ceremony where the boy who reaches age 13 assumes his religious duties.

At the magnificent Baltimore Hebrew Synagogue on Saturday morning we witnessed 13-year-old Robert Macht make his pledge of religious responsibility.

His was an impressive commitment of which any parent would have been proud. The youngster is the son of the Philip Machts (Lois). Mr. Macht is the businessman and former School Board member.

Cuff note: This Episopalian was impressed by the similarity of the prayers and service.

• • •

Later, at their Cross Country Boulevard palace, the Macht youngsters and their friends of both races danced to an orchestra and enjoyed a buffet.

Adults gathered in another section of the spacious home.

Among other guests: James and Cadrienne Griffin, Larry S. Gibson and Edith House.

Proudest guest present: Armand Baklor, the Beechfield Elementary teacher who specializes in teaching Hebrew.

The Macht youngster didn't know a word of Hebrew when he started instructions but he was beautiful and articulate in both English and Hebrew on Saturday morning.

Also there, Mrs. Doris Baklor, also Pleasant guests met: Mr. and Mrs. Neil Silomon. He is a newcomer to our city — hails from Ohio.

Many know the name because he is Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene with the Md. Department of Mental Health.

Here is a short and inspiring story, entitled, "The Phone Call," by Doris Askew in Sunday Digest and reprinted from a recent issue of our favorite, Guideposts:

The life of a pastor's wife is always a bit hectic. One day recently was more so than usual:

Numerous phone calls came from needy church members, my little car broke down, rides had to be arranged for the children who were at choir practice, my husband had two weddings scheduled . . . and I was trying to prepare dinner.

In the midst of all this the phone rang again I recognized the voice of a woman who had called often before for help and advice.

I loved this person, but the thought of spending 15 to 30 minutes on the phone with her filled me with dismay.

"I've called so many times with my problems," she said, "but today the Lord is working things out for me. Since all is going so well, I just wanted to share my joy with you."

What I had expected to be a burden had turned into a blessing! My heart was lifted for the rest of the day—a I because a friend took the time to share her joy.

It's NOT A Man's World

By BERNICE S. WHITE

MRS. WHITE

"school life" of Howard University.

In the spring of 1969 she had the opportunity to travel to Mark, Miss. as part of a group of twenty-five students and faculty members from Howard University to do a feasibility study on the possibility of setting up a public health facility for the poor blacks and whites in the area.

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Other new foreign service officers: — Mary C. Smoot of Washington and Laurance Stanley of New York City.

BERNICE S. WHITE

The black community, and black women especially, must begin asking questions about the kind of society we wish to see established. This new, free world that we are trying to create must not foster oppression of any type.

Thus, if the black woman has to continue in the lowly position she occupied before the social revolution, the entire movement will have retreated in terms of really freeing the colonized peoples of the world.

The black woman is being forced into a position of not daring to express her views and opinions and criticisms in the struggle when she sees others, for she does not want to be accused of emasculating the black man.

But can she afford to be silent at this time? The answer is a definite yes!

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Unfortunately, neither the black man nor the black woman understands the nature of the forces working against them.

The women accepted the teachings of a capitalist society and believed that the men were shiftless and lazy, otherwise, they would get a job and support their families as they ought to.

Thus, the relationships between the two were split and the end result was a complete breakdown of the family structure.

With the family unit destroyed, the black woman has been left alone, distraught, poor and helpless.

An inordinately high proportion of black women become welfare mothers, usually without a husband, in the household at least.

While the white agency outwardly deplores the absence of a father figure, it does not take long to realize that the state has created an artificial family, in which the welfare check takes the place of father and manipulates the direction of the family.

Kay Lindsey in an essay entitled, "The Black Woman at Woman," describes the plight of the black woman this way: "Large numbers of black women earn their living, either part or fulltime, as prostitutes, the most outrageous and flagrant form of sexual oppression. . . .

"Where the white woman is the wife, the black woman is the mother and wife and the bearer of future workers for the state;

"Where the white woman is the call girl or mistress, the black woman is the street prostitute;

"Where the white woman is married to a man who can afford it, a black woman takes over the care of the home and children for her."

She continues "While white females are sexual objects, black women are sexual laborers. White females are the tokens among women in this society, in that they have the titles, but not the power, while black women have neither . . . "

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Miss Lindsey concludes that we have an obligation as black women to project ourselves into the revolution to destroy those institutions which not only oppress blacks but women as well.

She suggests that if those institutions continue to flourish, they will be used against us in the continuing battle of mind over body.

More interesting quotes:

"Women have no moral sense; they rely for their behavior upon the men they love."—La Bruyere

"Whenever a woman dies there is one quarrel less on earth."—German proverb.

"In childhood a woman must be subject to her father; in youth, to her husband; when her husband is dead, to her sons. A woman must never be free of subjugation."—The Hindu Code of Manu.

"There is a good principle which created order, light, and man—and an evil principle which created chaos, darkness, and woman."—Pythagoras

Note: If there are issues you would like to see discussed in this column or questions you desire answered, write "It's Not A Man's World," care of Afro-American, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203.

Afro Line

AFRO LINE is an AFRO community service to help you solve problems, whatever they may be. It is also to be used as a post-card to AFRO LINE, AFRO, 628 N. Eutaw St., P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203. In addition to stating the question you want answered, include your name, address and phone number. Then watch for the answer in the AFRO LINE each week because that is where the Action can be found.

My name is Officer Friendly.

A page from the Officer Friendly coloring book distributed to kindergarten and first grade children by the police department.

QUESTION: My 5-year-old child came home from school with a card which showed he had been fingerprinted. He didn't know what it is all about, and I think I should have been notified ahead of time if there was to be such an activity involving my child. — Mrs. R. C.

ANSWER: Your son's class at school had a visit from Officer Friendly, (see attached photo), a representative of the Baltimore City Police Department who visits kindergarten and first grade children in city schools, explaining what the police force does and how children can help them.

In these visits, Officer Friendly (there are really four officers who visit schools), also shows students how some police equipment works, and included in that is a demonstration of fingerprinting, in which each child's fingerprint is made on a card which the child keeps, along with a coloring book about Officer Friendly. Each school knows well in advance of each visit when it will be and some schools send notices home to parents about it.

QUESTION — What can be done to clean up the area around the Mondawmin Shopping Center, paper, debris are there even on Sundays.- (MRS. P.G.

ANSWER: Fred O'Neal, president of Mondawmin Merchants personally toured the shopping area last Sunday after AFRO Line gave him the complaint. He advises every effort is being made to keep the area clean. "We have our own cleanup crew," he said, "and if necessary there will be follow-up cleanup on Sundays."

QUESTION: I have been to the Probation Department for the past 10 years asking for support for my four children and I get very little help. Why can't I get help for my family?

My husband has a good job, drives a car and has his own apartment, but I have to see that our children are cared for. Is there any way you can help me before I lose my mind? Every time I come to court for a hearing I have to take the day off and that's money I need to keep alive. — Mrs. J. H.

ANSWER: Go to the Probation Department, Family Service Division, Room 118, in the Courthouse. The department is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mr. Cummings, assistant director of the Probation Department, stressed the open door policy of the department.

QUESTION: When I wrote to you before, I was in the process of going before the parole board and needed the assurance of a job. You referred me to the Prisoners Aid of Maryland, whose spokesman was to give the parole board a letter of reasonable assurance.

My problem is now I have made parole and have written Prisoners Aid for their letter of intent, but have not heard anything from them.

I hope you will give this your prompt attention for, as you can see, I am desperate for this second chance that has been given me. — S. C.

ANSWER: AFRO LINE spoke with Mr. Fraker at the Prisoners' Aid Association of Maryland, who said that he had not received your letter. He suggested you write again to them, at 100 Old Town Bank Bldg., Gay and Fallsway, Baltimore, Md., 21202, to the attention of Mr. Fraker. He will then get in touch with you immediately.

In the Spotlight

The man who is largely responsible for the successful boycott by longshoremen in the port of the Steamship Trade Association of Baltimore, is one of the busiest men in the city.

Hershey Richardson, president of the 1200 member Local 858 of the International Longshoreman's Association, devotes almost every minute of his time to the union. He has been with Local 858 for 25 years, and president for eight.

Born in Ellaville, Ga., Mr. Richardson attended Georgia Normal. He moved to Baltimore in 1940, and now lives on Leighton Ave., in Northwest Baltimore, with his wife, Gertrude, and the three youngest of their six children, Leon, 21, Sukarno, 9 and Yolanda, 8.

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Mr. Richardson credits the success of the recent boycott, which centered around the number of blacks hired as longshoremen, to the efforts of his fellow officers and the "one hundred per cent support" of the membership of Local 858.

Last September, Mr. Richardson went on a Maryland Port Authority sponsored trip to the Far East to promote expanded business from the Far East to the Port of Baltimore.

Several important representatives of the port visited throughout Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Hawaii, looking at shipping facilities and talking to businessmen.

There was, due to crowded schedules, very little time for sightseeing, although the visitors did have a chance to see Kyoto in Kyoto and a few oriental temples and shrines.

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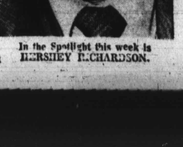
He enjoyed the trip, he remarked, in spite of the hectic pace, and the "difficulty of adjusting to the vast difference in time."

The weather in Japan in September, he reports, is "very warm and humid," and Japan's "industry is going full-blast." He added that Japan has a shortage of workers and must import people from Korea to work in many factories and industrial plants.

What with frequent trips to the headquarters of the International Longshoreman's Association in New York City and the fact that he is "on duty seven days a week, 24 hours a day," Mr. Richardson finds that he has "very little free time left."

He does find time to be a member of the Prisoner's Aid Association of Maryland and a mason. Clearly, though, he is first and last a union man.


In the Spotlight this week is HERSHEY RICHARDSON.