What The AFRO Stands For

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

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.

Don't Be A Litterbug

An irate caller complained bitterly this week that at the same time neighbors are striving to keep their block clean, less thoughtful residents are piling up litter in adjoining alleys and backyards.

The frustrated homeowner called the AFRO because her block was among winners last year in the AFRO's annual Clean Block campaign and probably will be involved in the 38th drive starting in June.

Whether one owns or rents his home he should be interested in clean and wholesome surroundings.

The first step in keeping a neighborhood clean is to stop the litterbugs.

You don't have to be wealthy or middleclass to put trash in a proper place and refrain from throwing it on the street or ground.

This applies to non-city residents as well as residents.

One of the more frustrating aspects of litter for those Baltimoreans who devote considerable effort to keeping the city from looking like some giant garbage can, is to have passersby toss junk onto the streets from their automobiles.

Good neighbors do not litter other people's neighborhoods, just as they don't litter their own.

Baltimore has won an award for its efforts at keeping the city clean.

For nearly four decades the AFRO has joined the community in a special campaign to clean-up during the summer months. The hope has been that the thousands of children and adults who participate in the summer campaigns would continue the war against litter throughout the year.

That apparently is the case with the irate woman who called.

If Baltimore is to be a clean and healthy place in which to live, everyone must cooperate.

Young Should Register Now

City Solicitor George L. Russell has ruled that the Board of School Commissioners cannot compel students to register to vote at age 18.

This does not alter in any way the importance of young people registering to vote as soon as possible.

For young Baltimoreans who register before Aug. 16, there is an outside chance you might be able to vote in the city's Sept. 14 primary and the November general election.

But even if enough states (38) have not ratified the constitutional amendment lowering the voting age to 18 for all elections in time for this year's mayoralty election, young people should get themselves on record as ready to take advantage of their citizenship rights and responsibilities.

Schools, churches, parents and various organizations should encourage newly-enfranchised young voters to register.

It takes but five minutes at the Supervisors of Elections, Fayette and Gay Sts., to register.

Young people with time on their hands could go down in small groups or alone.

One of the meaningful revolutions going on in this country today is in the area of politics.

Young people, who for years have expressed dissatisfaction with the way old line politicians have been running things, have a chance now to flex their muscles at the ballot boxes.

They can't do anything though, unless they are registered.

If you are prone to dilly-dally around, asking what the hurry is when you might not be able to vote until next year, consider these facts of politics:

When large numbers of voters with generally understood viewpoints are registered, they often determine who runs for office on what ticket. A candidate who expects to be in politics for some time, doesn't want to be tied to a teammate who is unpopular with a large segment of voters, whether they vote this election or the next.

When candidates think about the posture they will take as a politician, this often is done on the basis of who will be voting.

The issues, and likely the promises and pledges, that a candidate will discuss and stand close to, often are based on the voting strengths of his constituency.

So there are plenty of reasons why young people should start registering to vote now.

For Baltimore with the big mayoralty just ahead, there still is the chance eight more states will ratify the voting amendment in time to permit 18-year-olds to take part in this historic balloting. Now is the time to get ready.

Too Many Can Spoil Broth

Increasing attention is being directed these early days before the September primary to the announced candidates for mayor of Baltimore, and rightly so.

The more genuinely concerned the voters, the more likely the city will emerge with the better man for the job.

There stands, however, another avenue of concentration in the shaping municipal elections which must be given keen attention.

At point are the budding City Council races in Baltimore's six councilmanic districts.

However progressive-minded the next mayor may be a recalcitrant, majority of conservative councilmen would likely block many of his proposed programs.

This means, those who would have this city move forward in the next four years must look to the makeup of the new Council, as well as to a wise and prudent choice of a new mayor.

And that brings us to the business at hand —

The outgoing Council is decidedly conservative, with but five liberals and three moderates among its 19 members.

This has been reflected in progressive actions this Council has failed to take, in meaningful liberal legislation it has failed to pass.

The fall elections provide an opportunity for concerned voters.

Here is the outlook, with possibilities for change.

1st D. — Three ultra conservatives and quite likely to remain so; 2nd — one liberal, two conservatives, but three liberal seats possible; 3rd — one moderate, two conservatives, and will likely remain so; 4th — three liberals, and will remain liberal; 5th — one liberal, one moderate who will not seek reelection, and one ultra conservative, with three liberal seats possible; 6th — three conservatives, and likely to remain so.

Should this possible picture materialize, there would be a 9-9 liberal-conservative count in the new Council, with chances of a progressive-minded president swaying matters to the favorable column.

The possible new trends in the 2nd and 5th are clouded, however, by flocks of would-be candidates who are preparing to crowd the Council races in both districts.

What is shaping is a harmful repetition of what occurred four years ago, despite the pleas of more clear-thinking citizens.

Liberal candidates crowded the fields in both districts, splitting the vote and making possible the election of the two conservatives in the 2nd, and the one ultra conservative in the 5th.

Community leaders in both areas can act early to guard against overly crowded City Council races in both districts, using if need be the tool of public pressure.

Such weeding-out action is necessary before the candidates become too entrenched, and open the gates for conservative winners again.

It is vitally important that Baltimore have a progressive-thinking, incoming Council to move this city forward the next four years.

Remembering Malcolm X

Had Malcolm Little, later to be known as Malcolm "X," not been slain in the ballroom of the Audobon Hotel in New York on February 21, 1965, he would have been 46 years old this week, Wednesday was his birthday.

He was a complex, enigmatic man, whose personality seemed to be submerged behind the ever-present sunglasses and goatee.

Sociologists and psychologists are still mulling over his extraordinary well-received narrative: "The Autobiography of Malcolm X."

Historians are still debating the position he is to be given in the history of the nation generally and specifically his role in the civil rights and revolutionary movement of the late sixties.

Blacks and whites cannot agree as to whether Malcolm was a man of breadth and substance who happened to be black or a manipulator of people and exploiter of human misery for his own gain.

We will not record the merits of this man that is for the historians and the sociologists.

We only say he was a man first whose timely remarks earned for him an untimely death.

The Waterfront

When the day's work is consumated
and the staccato tempo tapers off.
The moonlight falls on the docking
places
Reflecting the forms of ships and
warehouses
And tomorrow will be another busy
day
Of ships coming and going
And while passing the waterfront
I heard a basso voice uttering
"The gang's all here."

PAUL D. McALLISTER

"Please Don't Do That"

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.

An Added Dimension Of Magnet School

Dear AFRO:

Many of us who read the articles describing the Magnet Plan and the under-utilized high schools in Baltimore were amazed that no mention was made of the fact that Dunbar is one of two Community High Schools in Baltimore.

A community high school has an added dimension of magnetism for a student who recognizes, or who has been informed, or who becomes aware of the fact, that he is lacking in basic skills.

A program is developed by the Community Council and presented through the help of the coordinator and professional and community staff that is geared to the specific needs and the specific interests of the students, the adults, and the young people who attend that Community School.

• • •

Dunbar High is no exception and has the unusual distinction of being one of the first Community Schools to have a council so dedicated to the development of programming that through its efforts help has been sought from such places as the Essex Community College to provide tutoring program; the Baltimore Tutorial Center; Model Cities Agency to develop a cultural arts program; the Bureau of Recreation to develop a special type of Family Life Education program the Adult Education Division to maintain a high level of programs for persons who wish to earn high school diplomas.

These programs are in effect at the Dunbar Community School in such a manner that a student who attends that school 6:30 until 2:30 has the option of getting special help in special subject areas as well as gaining additional skills through participating in programs that extend until 10 o'clock at night.

The youth at Dunbar Community High School have membership on the community council. As a result of this membership, and as a result of the participation of a number of the youth, this Community High School is open every day of the week including Saturday and Sunday on a year-round basis.

It is a very usual thing to see Dunbar High School having numbers of people attend different types of programs and events on Saturday and Sunday. This practice has been in effect since the summer of 1969.

The program at Dunbar Community High School does not wait to attract the students when he becomes of high school age. This program reaches to the youngest students and places its emphasis on providing activities for the very young child from the age of two on up to the age of eighty-two in such a way that the neighboring institutions, as well as institutions from remote sections of the city, have joined with the council at Dunbar to provide a range of activities the like of which is not duplicated in any other high school in the city.

These are some of the special activities going on now at Dunbar: Art, Arts and Crafts, Black History, Bongos, Creative writing, Guitar, Gymnastics, Instrumental Music, Gospel Singing, Modern Dance, Photography, Psychology, Typing, Printing, Sociology, Tutoring, Urban Affairs.

You might see this for yourself by visiting the building at any time from 8 in the morning until 10 o'clock at night.

It is important, therefore, that when young people are given a chance to choose a school, that they know that the school or one of he schools that they might choose has the added dimension of giving them the hours and the skill training in areas in which they might find that they are deficient and thereby assuring them not only of graduation from the high school, but assure them of job placement and of career opportunities.

(Mrs.) PEARL C. BRACKETT
Assistant Superintendent
Community Schools Division

Thanks To AFRO

Dear AFRO:

I was enormously gratified and pleased upon receipt of the news that I had been chosen by your paper for the coveted and highly respected, AFRO Honor Roll of the Year. Nothing is more heartening and uplifting than to be honored for that which one enjoys doing.

I have a commitment to the amelioration of the quality of education for all children in Baltimore City. This is particularly true with respect to the quality of education offered to black children who have historically been excluded from top quality learning opportunities, and poor white children in our city.

To be sure, providing hope, motivation, and exhilaration for these youngsters in our classrooms is a compelling concern of mine.

Francis Bacon has said aptly that, "Knowledge is power," and I agree with him, but I also believe more significantly the admonition of Socrates: "Knowledge is virtue." We must seek to provide these two ingredients for our most precious resource — our children.

Please except my profound thanks and appreciation for selecting me to share your high honor.

SAMUEL L. BANKS
director, Commission on the Revision
of the Social Studies

SSA Hit

Dear AFRO:

From the very beginning of American Civilization, the worst and most evil forms of discrimination has existed within the reigns of the Federal Government. I say this because it, (the Fed. Gov.), tends to conceal its racist and discriminatory ways, were as the KKK and other racist organizations, openly express their feelings.

The Social Security Administration is a racist and discriminatory organization within the confines of the Federal Government. Continuously, management inject into the minds of the public that it is against discrimination in all forms, but its black employees are living witnesses, that this is indeed a hypocritical statement.

From the persistent racial discrimination and the seemingly slow progress in correcting it, the HEW/SSA Black Task Force came into existence. Our aim is to awaken the masses to the evils of this racist government, and to change the structure of the administration's policy, to secure "more power" for the "people." We are letting the "man" know, that our dear old Uncle Tom is dead!!! Right On!

WILLIAM E. JOHNSON
spokesman, HEW/SSA Black Task
Force on Racial Discrimination

POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

City Faces New Tax Problems

BY MAX JOHNSON

MR. JOHNSON

While a lot of people are rightfully turning more and more attention to Baltimore's shaping mayoral race this fall — a lot more people are concerned over the more immediate new hike in city taxes.

The picture is far more gloomy than may be recognized at cursory attention.

Mayor D'Alesandro has sent the City Council a whopping near billion-dollar budget — calling for a 16-cent increase in the property tax rate.

But — this hike in the property tax is contingent upon Council passage of ordinances calling for still more taxes.

The current property tax is $5.34 per $100 assessment — and the mayor's proposed increase would jump it to $5.50.

This in itself is an ouchy enough picture — but it gets more prickly.

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The mayor has also sent to the Council two proposed ordinances to keep the tax hike at the 16 cent level.

One asks that a six per cent tax be levied on public utilities for residential consumption.

This means such a percentage tax on the electricity, gas, fuel, oil or coal you may use in your home.

To visualize more readily the impact of this — just be reminded that there is not this tax now on residential users.

However, the mayor and his fiscal advisers say it will yield about $5 million — or the equivalent to about 16½ cents on the property tax rate.

So — the homeowner is stood against the wall again.

• • •

The D'Alesandro companion ordinance proposes a five percent tax on commercial rentals — payable by the tenant and collected by the landlord.

This is a bite at businesses in the city.

There are those who hold this could drive some enterprises out of the city — and certainly not entice new ones to take up roots here.

It is quite possible, though, that the commercial tax would not do so to an alarming degree after all.

A similar tax is being proposed by officials in neighboring Anne Arudel and Baltimore Counties — and there is a strong likelihood that it will be successful in both areas.

In this city — the mayor estimates the commercial tax would yield $8.1 million, or the equivalent to about 17 cents on the property tax rate.

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Such is the current new tax picture — as the Council begins shortly deliberations on the new city budget.

The Council has frowned in the past on these types of levies — but what that body does this year remains to be seen.

This is an election year — and lawmakers are quite reluctant to institute new taxes in an election year.

Mayor D'Alesandro can hang loose — for he is not seeking reelection.

He can and does give the Council the problem of passing his proposed new taxes — or the alternative of making drastic cuts in departmental budget requests.

And that is bad for an election year, too.

• • •

The Council, however, can be expected to trim the budget in a number of areas — possibly enough to slice two or three cents off the D'Alesandro proposed 16 cents property tax increase.

The Council is not empowered to add cuts already made by the Board of Estimates — so nobody can look forward to getting more than now allocated.

And a lot of people are far from pleased with what they see in sight.

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But — homeowners face a problem in steadily rising taxes.

The property tax rate is considered certainty — but there stands a point.

Should the property tax absorb more of the burden this year — and have the two D'Alesandro ordinances killed?

Or should the mayor try desperately to find some other source — if another is available?

Time is now for city residents to talk to their Council representatives about the whole thing.

It's a gloomy picture — but yet they want to be mayor of Baltimore.

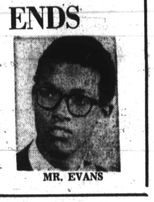
Maybe some of the mayoral candidates can cut the rhetoric — and come up with some solutions.

Let's ask them.

ODDS AND ENDS

Blacker Than Thou

By PAUL EVANS


MR. EVANS

There is an interesting phenomenon popping up time and time again among what are thought to be mature men, politicians and leaders in Baltimore.

For lack of a better more descriptive name, I call it the "blacker than thou" phenomenon.

It is contagious; it first saw the light of day when the "Black Power" Movement was really going strong in the late Sixties. It has gone underground and is now more subtle.

It is a vicious weapon. It can maim psychologically.

As the campaign for mayor in this city moves along, it seems this phenomenon is nourished and given new strength with each passing day.

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This writer saw the serpent rear its ugly head last month when a member of the House of Delegates conducted a study in which he concluded that members of a particular minority, after achieving a certain status, are inclyll to less fortunate members of the same group.

A member of the City Council's fourth district delegation took issue with the legislator. Whereupon, the legislator castigated the councilman, impugning him by implying that he of all persons was not a member of the group.

Last week, a second incident involving the mayoral election took place. The scion of a well-known family, currently serving as a state senator from the fourth district, announced his decision to stand for election as mayor.

This candidate is of a minority group, as is another candidate who previously announced. The two candidates have different styles. Both are well-known. Both have political power bases.

This newly announced candidate finished his remarks with a "dig" or "swipe" at the other candidate, proclaiming himself to be the only true representative of the minority in the race.

A Philosophy or Latin professor would call these assertions ad hominem.

A trusted dictionary gives this definition: — Ad hominem means appealing to a prejudice, emotion, or a special interest rather than to intellect or reason. Another definition: against an opponent rather than against his arguments. A literal translation would be "to the man."

• • •

Thus far, I have purposely avoided the mention of names or a minority group.

The race for mayor this year is crucial. Our role and place in the city for years to come may well depend upon the type of campaign run, as well as who wins.

In the first situation, Troy Brailey is the delegate and Dr. Emerson Julian is the councilman.

Clarence Mitchell III and City Solicitor George Russell are referred to in the second description.

As leaders in the community and in the state, Del. Brailey and Sen. Mitchell certainly can't afford the time to be high priests of the "blacker than thou" philosophy.

I am not defending the political views or the personalities of any of the politicians named. However, the "blacker than thou" philosophy is divisive and is a poor attitude for anyone holding public office.

• • •

This column hopes Mr. Brailey and Mr. Mitchell, in their respective roles, address themselves to the issues and leave the ad hominem assertions to the ignorant, the racists (black and white) and the small-minded.

A central issue in this election is what candidate will do the best job in providing citizens with needed services and giving effective leadership and a voice for those who have not had a voice: the poor and the black.

Race should be taken out of the campaign. If both Mr. Russell and Mr. Mitchell, agree not to make race the central issue and address themselves to solving ALL the people's problems, it should be a campaign fought on the qualifications and not the color.

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 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.
—1960

TOGETHER Drain On Society

By MADELINE MURPHY

MRS. MURPHY

The article in Friday's Morning Sun bemoaning the disruption at the Flower Mart is an example of both the collective inferiority complex of the black community and an anachronism of an upper class malady: "The good ole days must be preserved for ever"

The Flower Mart, as I remembered it a scant 20 years ago, was "off limits" to the black populace, as were the May Company, Stewart's, Hochschild's and Hutzlers, O'Neills, as was Charles Street, unless "Miss Ann" needed you to catch the No. 5 bus to labor in her kitchen.

It is deplorable that young black people should have to express their hostility and exclusion from the mainstream in this way.

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I do not doubt that as one black student is reported saying, the police overreacted with black kids, particularly, in light of resistance the police department has shown in developing any change in its inherent racism.

Deeper concerns, however are as deceptive as the tip of the iceberg.

The proverbial "amen corner" exhibited by the mayoral hopefuls as a seal of approval on racism, rather than an examination of cause and effect, leaves a very empty feeling in the hearts of most thinking black people.

• • •

I pose these questions:

1. Why must an anachronism like the Women's Civic League go on with its high-priced snobbish display of upper class intolerance despite the growing tension between the races, the wider gap between the haves and have nots — they being directly or indirectly responsible for these conditions thus approving them?

2. Why must we, the victimized, become ever and ever the culprits when even the hippies last year showed by their disruptive attacks, that times have changed, that unjust wars rage, that violence is condoned in Vietnam?

Violence reigns in the jailing of Angela Davis, in the rat-infested slums, in higher prices, lower wages and unemployment.

Yet, amid the rubble, banners stream, lady hawkers sell their high-priced flowers and lemon sticks and to all intents and purposes, business goes on as usual.

• • •

Surfacing above the tumult is the insensitive statement of Mrs. Robert C. Farrar, president of the Women's Civic League. She was quoted as saying,

"I don't understand it. Maybe it's the lack of discipline at home and the schools. They didn't smile. They were obviously not having fun.

"I think they will have to change if the country is going to survive. I have to admit they were not the Little League type. I don't think they are enjoying life. I don't think they accomplish anything in life and will be a drain on society forever."

"Well," she laughed, "I guess you certainly get an opinion when you scratch a Mount Holyoke graduate."

• • •

One expression I have heard among black civil rights groups about scratching is a bit different but quite a propos: "Scratch a liberal, and you get a racist every time."

The so-called illustrious history of the Flower Mart for 50 years reflects all the trappings of an oblivious white society which has proved by its segregationist attitudes that black people as participants are irrelevant.

And, therefore, as a counter protection, we are no longer smiling and taking the punishment of being excluded, exploited and exterminated, despite the billy-clubs, the horses, the aggressive positiveness of a racist police force and court.

The fact that people wonder why this happened this year when blacks became the disruptors speaks sadly of the ignorance and detachment with which people view society as a whole.

• • •

Continued segregation in the schools, continued police brutality, continued life killing space heaters, continued spiralling unemployment, continued rotten housing, poor diets, don't make for smiling faces or "Little League types."

No doubt Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Huey Newton, Bobby Seale, Erica Huggins, the Alabama children bombed in the church where Angela Davis attended have heard and been shown over and over again that they were "drains on society," because they refused to accept the racist class consciousness, the senseless, inhuman middle class valves of a decadent society.

No, Mrs. Farrar, not "they" but you, will have to change if this country is going to survive.

You will have to change if this country is going to survive.

You will have to include black garden clubs, black civic groups, black youth in your planning for the next Mart, otherwise, your racism will shorten your survival and never alter your values.

Let us not forget that slavish conformity to traditions must be placed in proper perspective as to its meaning to society as a whole.

It must not be blindly revered at the expense of meaningful change, nor must it be continued in its rigid unbending form, long past its usefulness.

How is City Solicitor Russell going to react to the Mitchell candidacy? Is he going to take the offensive or defensive?

Is he going to pick up councilmanic candidates to support his ticket?

Is he going to continue playing manic candidates to support his ticket?

Most of all, does he feel he has made a bold enough thrust into getting youthful supporters, especially the new 18-year-olds?

Why Mitchell In, Pressman Out

DR. FLEMING

with G. JAMES FLEMING

If you had bet that Hyman Pressman would not be a candidate for mayor, you would have been right and won.

If you had bet that Clarence Mitchell would not be a candidate for the same office, you would have been wrong and lost.

And why the two — one white, one black — have taken different roads is not hard to see.

• • •

With the mayoralty race wide open, with a front-running black candidate (George Russell), Baltimore's white political "pros" are not going to split the white vote as they did last year.

Hyman Pressman, as mayoralty candidate, would have split the white vote — especially the Jewish votes which is expected to support William Donald Schaefer, another front-running candidate for mayor.

Now, in the wheeling and dealing taking place, it's only a matter of time before Walter Orlinsky should get out of the race also — or be brought out, in keeping with the pattern delineated so well last week by fellow-columnist, Max Johnson.

It seems clear that the objective is to have only one serious white aspirant in the Democratic primary on Sept. 14.

The objective of Russell backers is to have only one firm black candidate running for mayor in the primary.

• • •

Why then has 31-year-old Senator Mitchell persisted in throwing his hat in the ring, although most "pros" believe that he knows he cannot win, and that his running may also prevent George Russell from winning?

An attempt at an answer can only be understood as one recalls that the Mitchell family has, over the years, said to each other that Clarence (Senator Mitchell), would be the first black congressman in Maryland or the first black mayor of Baltimore. This idea became belief.

By some slip, Uncle Parren Mitchell ran off with the congressional opportunity. There is only one more chance to be a black "first."

• • •

This seems to be the plan: —

1. Senator Mitchell will run in 1971; thereby he will keep another black from becoming Baltimore's first black mayor — and from seeking a second term in 1975.

2. During 1971-75, the senator will attempt to establish a sparkling record in the state legislature — in the kind of bills introduced, in improved attendance at committee and general meetings, and in the headlines he makes.

3. In 1975, with Baltimore blacker than ever, he will be the premier candidate, with a solid image, and still only 35 — to become still the youngest mayor in Baltimore's history.

4. In the meantime, and by 1975, City Solicitor George Russell should be comfortable on the State Court of Appeals or on the federal bench, and no newcomer could outshine Clarence Mitchell.

• • •

If the foregoing is the plan, or a fair facsimile, why should the senator want to invest good money in 1971, which may be needed in 1975?

Here, the "pros" have two thoughts:

1. Senator Mitchell is not going to invest too much of his own money, even if he had it or could raise it from among his family. He will spend only enough to split the black vote so as to defeat Russell.

2. There are moneybags and political "pros" in the community who do not want any black mayoralty candidate to win, but, for now, will see that Mitchell gets all the money he wants, because he is the best way of achieving their own purpose. And that purpose is: To keep any black from beloming mayor in '71 or '72.

Could it be that the same "pro" moneybags are also making the arrangements that will keep white candidates from undercutting each other (starting with the elimination of H. Pressman)?

It is these kinds of off-the-record tidings which can be translated in wheeling and dealing.

• • •

The race for mayor brings up several other thoughts:

How will Senator Verda Welcome be able to sleep easily, politically speaking, if her Fourth District Organization decides to support Russell for mayor, who, in turn, is also supported by Messrs. William A. Adams and Henry G. Parks and the competing Metro Democratic Club which decided to support Russell?

Reunion note: Douglass High class of 1941 holds its reunion dinner-dance on Friday, May 28 at Eudowood Gardens. Time is 7:30.

More moving about: Baltimore Prince Hall Masons are in Jackson, Miss. this week for meeting of the Grand Lodge' Conference.

They are: Grand Master Samuel T. Daniels, David Scott grand treasurer; William Morton, assistant treasurer; Fred Dicks, grand secretary, and James T. Dorsey, senior warden.

Which reminds me to mention newest couple around these days is Mr. Dorsey and Mrs. Rosita Uncles. They were at the Bavlids affair rSno tur-were at the Bavlids affair on Saturday at Cross Keys.

• • •

It couldn't happen to a nicer guy—the testimonial, that is which is set for on Saturday, May 22, and honors John Hawkins, the retired field representative of the Baltimore Labor Council, AFL-CIO. It's at 7 p.m. at the Lord Baltimore Hotel.

• • •

Free School Switchboard Issue No. 6 has an interesting article on "Visiting High Schools."

Listen while they tell it like it is:

"A teacher-friend went to Mervo High School recently. It was an unpleasant experience. It was unpleasant for the very reason that almost any visit to almost any high school is unpleasant—not because of the institutional appearance or the cafeteria food or the mob disorder of students or the sterility of the classrooms—but the very fear, distrust and, at times, disgust, which make up the teacher-student school day.

"Chris went to Mervo one morning with five or six students to meet with another teacher. As they went through the halls they found teachers, acting as guards, patrolling the students, holding them in the classrooms until the sound of the bell. 'Get back in there!' No one in the halls until the bell. 'Move back. That toe is over the line.' Then the bell rang and a thousand kids poured their pent-up energies into the corridors, pushing and shouting in an untameable dance, while in the background was the unheeded chorus of guards changing for order.

Chris and her students stopped one teacher. "Excuse me, could you tell me where. . . .

"DO YOU HAVE A VISITORS' PASS? the woman asked. You must have a pass to see anyone in here her voice rising in volume and shrillness. Where is your pass? You will have to go to the office for a pass. By this time, aroused by the increasing commotion, two men had appeared to save the teacher in the halls. "What's going on here? one man demanded.

"The question took the form of an attack; there was no courtesy or respect, only fear of something out of the ordinary. Meanwhile the other man attended to the students. The students were doing absolutely nothing (except possibly smiling at the unwarranted confusion) but the second man remonstrated one boy with. Look here young man, this is not a playground!

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"Chris and the students went to the office. No one greeted or asked to help them. Then a teacher stopped. What's going one here? he demanded. When told the situation he mumbled and walked away, without offering help. What's the trouble here? came another teacher.—What are these boys doing here? asked another. In all, four teachers stopped to question the irregularity of strange people in office but none was courteous enough to help.

"Finally visitors' passes were procured and a student was assigned to guide the guest through the long identical corridor of the school. Through the closed - door glass of each identical room could be seen teachers trying to lecture in the the world to rows of uninspired students. The single sound of muffled teachers' voices seeped into the prison-like tunnels to the school.

"The visiting students were delivered to the proper classroom and properly seated in chairs behind desks. Chris had to make a phone call so she went in search of a phone booth. She had just begun dialing when a corridor guard came up and said, "What are you doing here? Do you have a pass? Chris admitted that she did not have a pass, that she intended to use the phone, as she had for the past twenty years, without anyone's permission. Chris then told the guard that she was not a student, but a teacher.

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"The guard's reaction immediately changed, Oh. I thought you were a student. If you're a teacher it's all right then.

"The remedy, of course, is not for teachers to change their tone of voice. They must change their entire feeling about kids and teaching. And before that is possible the whole school structure must change. Fearful people claim that any change threatens discipline as if you could develop discipline with boredom). But these people are confused.

"What they are trying to maintain in the schools is not discipline but coercion. What we have for students in schools as they exist today is not education, but incarceration.

"There is a great need to change the schools, so that strangers, and students, are treated with respect, not like an enemy force, but as honored guest of the school."

IF YOU Ask Me

BY BETTYE MOSS

MRS. MOSS

More People, Places And Things

More people Out-of-towners here over the Preakness weekend included Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Allen (Madge—she was formerly on Morgan faculty—is now registrar at Norfolk State; he is working on his doctorate at U. of Pittsburgh.)

Also here for the Preakness and a reunion with their daughter wh teaches in Baltimore, were St. Paul, Minn.'s police captain, James Griffin and his wife, Edna.

Most entertained visitors in our midst this weekend were the Springfield, Ohio residents who came for the WO-BE-CO dinner Sunday evening, where proceeds created a journalism scholarship in this columnist's name for a June graduate of Douglass High.

Here were: Mr. and Mrs. James Minor (Dot); Mr. and Mrs. Julius Henry (Florence); and Mr. and Mrs. Ellwood Johnson (Margie), and their teen daughter, Ellen.

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The Johnsons were houseguests of Mrs. Louise G. Robinson. She and Howard Murphy entertained for them and a number of other friends at dinner following the Preakness.

The William Pinderhughes' entertained in their honor at brunch on Sunday morning after holiday in Dr. and Mrs. Samuel R. Owing (Barbara), had the Henrys in for brunch shortly after they flew in on Saturday a.m.

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The Henrys' young son, Brian, guested with the two Owings children, Carey and Ritchie and of course had an opportunity of make the round of things (bowling, birthday, party et al), kids do on Saturday these days.

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Also here from afar the Leon Bridges of Seattle. He's the noted architect who has a branch office here in our town. The Mrs. flew in to join him for the weekend affairs.

Among them, the 8th birthday party Dr. and Mrs. Eric White gave their daughter, Courtney.

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Former AFRO co-worker Francis Yancey, now staff artist for a Boston Gaity, and his wife, Mabel, were also here.

He designed the handsome greeting card which was circulated throughout the banquet hall for signatures.

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More people moving about: State Senator Clarence Mitchell 3rd, his father, Clarence Mitchell Jr., the Washington NAACP executive, and his wife, Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell, are among guests invited to dedication of the Lyndon Baines Johnson library on the campus of the U. of Texas in Austin on Saturday.

NOW AND THEN

In the Spotlight

When the Department of Motor Vehicles opened its new Baltimore branch office at 610 N. Howard St. on Tuesday, its manager was young man who has plenty of experience in the department, about 10 years, in fact.

Rudolph W. Walker, 35, started with the DMV as a teletype operator, later became a license reviewer in the Review and Reinstatement Section, until his new assignment in the city.

As a license reviewer, he says, he was responsible for dealing with those drivers whose licenses were jeopardized by too many bad driving points; his office could require driving schools and other measures up to and including revocation of licenses.

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In the new Baltimore branch office Mr. Walker will manage a staff of about 50 employees, who will perform all the functions of the main DMV office in Glen Burnie except administer driving tests.

Fortunately, he says, only four of them are new to the DMV. Between the rest, he adds, there are "something like 120 years of experience."

A native of Baltimore, Mr. Walker is a graduate of Douglass High School and attended Community College of Baltimore.

Besides his appointment as manager, he has something else to be happy about: he is engaged to be married "in the near future."

He adds that a date has not yet been set, but he has asked the minister of his church, Providence Baptist, to perform the ceremony.

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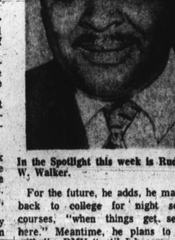
Mr. Walker lives in the 2400 block Loyola Northway and has three younger brothers, Tyrone and Harry Walker, and a sister, Mrs. Delores Thomas, living in Baltimore, all of them married.

Hobbies include learning to play golf and an avid interest in modern jazz: "I'm not a musician," he says, "just a listener."


In the Spotlight this week is Rudolph W. Walker.

For the future, he adds, he may go back to college for night school courses, "when things get settled here." Meantime, he plans to stay with the DMV "until I become commissioner."

Baltimore AFRO-American

PAGE OPPOSITE

MAY 15, 1971

It's NOT A Man's World

By BERNICE S. WHITE

MRS. WHITE

The Equal Pay Law has many beneficial effects and women (some men, too) are benefiting from its enforcement.

The Wage and Hour Compliance Officers of the U.S. Department of Labor have found a large percentage of equal pay violations.

By the middle of 1970, the department had found back wages owing nearly 55,000 employees, nearly all women, after investigations disclosed almost $19 million in wage underpayments.

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Some of the findings and the dollar amounts include the following:

— $11,334 to 58 women bus drivers by a New England school department.

— $71,000 to 265 women nursing aides in Pennsylvania who were being paid 20 cents an hour less than male orderlies for work that was generally the same.

— $3,608 to telephone repairwomen. The repairmen were receiving higher wages for essentially performing the same work except for some occasional heavy lifting. The women's salaries were raised from $80 a week to $120 — the rate the company paid the men.

— An $800 annual increase in the entry-level salary for women college graduates being trained by a large retail store for buyer positions in order to make their salaries equal with the men trainees.

— $29,771 in back pay to 21 women employees at Sagner, Inc., a men's clothing plant in Frederick, Md. This sum, plus interest, must be paid the women after the union insisted that the company pay the women only one quarter, or $7,443, and then distribute the remainder among the male work-ers in order to "keep peace in the union."

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Some 350 women employees went on strike against the United Auto Workers and requested $10.85 a week higher pay, the same as was negotiated for the men.

After three weeks of picketing and negotiations, the women settled for a $9.80 weekly raise plus $50 vacation bonuses and some other small benefits.

Although most Equal Pay Act violations can be attributed to lack of knowledge or misinformation about the law, there are many employers who are knowingly in violation.

Employed men and women should be treated alike on pay day when their work is equal. That one sex should be given pay preferences over another is both immoral and illegal.

Note: If you have questions to be answered or opinions you'd like to express, write "It's Not A Man's World," AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203.

AFRO LINE is an AFRO community service to help you solve problems, whatever they may be. All you have to do is write a postcard 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.

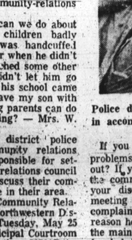
QUESTION: I am shocked at the sight of a policeman hitting a boy with a stick while four other policemen hold him (AFRO photo, May 15). I can understand that the boy might have been rowdy, but is all that necessary? Somebody should report that officer. — MISS R. G.

ANSWER: AFRO LINE spoke with Col. Shanahan, director of Patrol, who told us the officer, badge number 2913, is Richard Walsh, of the Tactical Division. Officer Walsh, Shanahan added, has no record of using excessive force and so far no complaint has been made against him. He also said, "I would hope that anyone who has a complaint about an officer will voice it." You may file a complaint at your district station by calling and talking to the community-relations sergeant.

QUESTION: What can we do about police treating our children badly My 12-year-old son was handcuffed and put in a squad car when he didn't do anything. Just walked home with other kids fighting. They didn't let him go until the principal of his school came and asked them to leave my son with him. Is there anything we can do about this kind of thing? — Mrs. W. W.

ANSWER: Every district police station has a community relations sergeant, who is responsible for setting up a community relations council so that people can discuss their complaints with the police in their area.

In fact, the Police-Community Relations Council of the Northwestern District will meet next Tuesday, May 25 at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Courtroom at the Northwest Station, 5271 Reisterstown Rd.


Police department tells what to do in accompanying article.

If you live in that area and have problems, why not attend and speak out? If you live in another area, call the community relations sergeant in your district and find out when a meeting will be held, or make your complaint directly to him if for any reason he cannot or will not help, call the main Community Relations office headed by Maj. William Harris, at MU. 5-1600.