Your vote is the one that counts

Vote GENERAL ELECTION Nov. 2, 1971

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.

Baltimore Afro-American

A-4 OCTOBER 30, 1971

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.

Fire Chief's Views

Dear AFRO:

I would like to correct some of the remarks made by Mr. G. R. Henson in the October 16th AFRO regarding charges preferred against Fire Fighter Guy J. Rooks of Engine Company No. 18.

The basic criticism involved was stated as Rooks having been suspended for not getting a haircut. This is not entirely accurate since Rooks was suspended for not obeying an order even though redress was available if the man felt the order was not valid.

The Fire Fighter could have pursued the validity of the order through the various levels of command right up to the Board had he felt he was being discriminated against.

In hearing the charge, the Fire Board took great pains in preserving the rights of Rooks to display his black awareness and black heritage; certainly no one had any intent to punish Mr. Rooks for this.

The Fire Board must be aware of its responsibility to the personal safety of Mr. Rooks and the moral as well as legal obligations to protect him from the potential hazards of fire service.

The Board currently has under study several proposals on policy governing haircuts, beards, and sideburns, etc. and their relationship to personal safety in terms of fire service. As of this writing no decision has been reached.

Yours very truly,
JAMES J. LACY JR.,
President, Board of
Fire Commissioners

Baby Bust

Dear AFRO:

The new census figures are saying that the birth rate is on the decline.

This "baby bust" might be good for the white majority in this country but in no way does it insure a strong future for the black race.

The present census points out that unless blacks continue to produce at least two babies for everyone adult it won't be long before we'll be less than 10 per cent of the population.

In the typical black family there is a need for at least three children in order for one to get a chance to go to college. One is usually among the underachievers, one usually helps out, and the other has an opportunity to get a college education.

So the two-child family that the population controllers are talking about is neither practical nor helpful to the black race.

Another fact is that as nations grow, the United States is over-crowded. The USA has about 55 persons per square mile while other countries, such as Holland, are 18 times as crowded with 975 persons per square mile and England 10 times with 588 persons per square mile.

"A group of scientists are talking about "putting temporary sterilants (yet to be invented) in the water supply to achieve and stay at zero population growth."

Zero population growth means one baby for every person who dies on a one to one basis.

"Persons who want a baby," said UPI story in the Oct. 2 AFRO, "would have to get a license from the government to buy an aqUidote sterilant."

This sounds very unreal. But we need to remember that persons who talked of riding in cars back in the 1900's and the Wrights who invented the airplane were laughed at when they first made them or inventions known.

Therefore, we need to realize how important it is to fine a better solution to the population problem. And the sooner we find it, the better off we will be.

TONI CELESTE MCKINLEY

Books For Inmates

Dear AFRO:

I am a lawyer with the Prisoner Assistance Project of the Legal Aid Bureau in Baltimore. We are funded by the Model Cities Agency and attempt to provide legal assistance to prisoners in the Maryland Penal System. A problem that our clients often raise concerns the inadequacy of prison and jail libraries. Many men and women have asked us to provide publications for them which are unavailable where they are incarcerated. This, unfortunately, is not a function that the Legal Aid Bureau is financially capable of performing. This comes to request that your readers consider the possibility of donating books to the prisoners.

We are particularly interested in American and World History books, novels and of course law books or other legal or quasi-legal material.

CHARLES F. MORGAN,
Assistant Director
(Editor's Note: Prisoner assistance project of Legal Aid Bureau is at 1435 W. Baltimore. Phone: 945-0620.)

Single-Shoot Vote

Carl M. Adair can win a City Council seat in the Fifth District and rid that body of a conservative politician if AFRO voters single-shoot for him on election day, Nov. 2.

This will be the last crack at Reuben Caplan. After Tuesday he will be back in the Council where he can vote against liberal causes.

Adair has gained wide support for his election bid and all he needs is a good turnout and a single-shooting effort.

Ministers, labor groups like steelworkers' Local 2610, civic leaders, political leaders of both parties, including U.S. Senator Charles Mc Mathias and House of Delegates member Kenneth Webster, are backing Carl Adair.

He can win with a heavy vote.

Two other candidates deserve special attention.

On the citywide tickets, Mrs. Margaret Dyer deserves support in her bid to move into the comptroller's seat.

Voters in all six districts can cast ballots for Mrs. Dyer.

In the Third District, AFRO readers have another chance to make a change in the composition of the City Council by singleshooting for Joe Ayd.

Ayd has worked hard, put out a lot of sensible position papers and indicated he would be more in keeping with a moderate City Council program than would be either of the other candidates.

None of the others is a real friend anyway so it should be easy for Third District voters to singleshoot for Ayd.

On Nov. 2, don't be misled by the odds against your candidate.

Your one vote is terribly important.

Every single vote is important.

None of them, Adair, Mrs. Dyer nor Ayd, have a chance to win without your vote.

Unity With Schaefer

William Donald Schaefer is supported for mayor by the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers in the Nov. 2 election.

Walter Orlinsky is our choice for City Council president.

Mrs. Margaret Dyer is the AFRO's choice for comptroller.

Many things could be said about Schaefer, such as his being the best man in the race, the broad base of support he has, his knowledge of Baltimore problems or his experiences.

Foremost on the AFRO's list of reasons is the expectation that Schaefer, based on the changing realities in Baltimore, will make unity, equal opportunity and fairer representation for all in government a priority of his administration.

The AFRO expects outstanding people like City Solicitor George L. Russell Jr. will be retained and that appointments to all types of jobs will reflect this priority.

Schaefer's recent unity dinner, at which Russell proved himself to be as interested in unity in practice as in campaign speeches, should make it easy for Schaefer to move ahead with appointments and programs that Baltimore needs if it is to avoid decay and racial polarization.

Orlinsky simply is the only candidate of merit for the post he seeks. His Republican opposition is not a man to be trusted with a job of responsibility.

Mrs. Dyer, as the AFRO has said before, would be a vast improvement over the comptroller now in office. A victory for her would remove an insensitive official from office and give women a well-deserved stronger hand in the running of city government.

Wait And See

On the face of things, the defection of Earl Monroe from the basketball camp of the Baltimore Bullets could be interpreted as unwarranted and unfair action on the part of the player. It could be compared to a wildcat strike, where employees withhold their services without prior notice to the employer.

But that is on the face of things, the face of things being only that part of the story which has been told. It is the story that has been released by the Bullets' front office.

AFRO readers are counseled to do as the AFRO is doing: wait until both sides of the issue have been aired.

One of the cardinal sins in our society is to overlook the fact that on occasion there are two sides to every dispute. It is to Monroe's credit that he has not rushed into print with an indictment of his employer.

The statement by one of his teammates, since confirmed by others, implies that there may be grounds for such indictment. Our decision is to wait and see; meanwhile, hoping that a solution satisfactory to all will be forthcoming soon.

POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

It Only Hurts For A Little While

MR. JOHNSON

By MAX JOHNSON

Back in early spring, early summer, and even late summer — there were hopeful aspirations by many conscientious residents that Baltimore's municipal elections this year would be a historical event in the political progressiveness of one of the nation's top cities.

They visualized chances were great for the city's first black mayor — and they had an excellent candidate in George L. Russell Jr., Baltimore's first black Supreme Bench judge, the city's first black head of its Law Department.

There were all the makings of an attention-generating political campaign — for the Russell top opposition was William Donald Schaefer, City Council president, veteran Council member, and a white candidate of recognized qualifications, ability.

Interest was building, but not on a racial basis — for both Russell and Schaefer were developing strong black and white supporters alike.

Both were developing strong financial backing.

But — then it happened.

There blossomed more and more in the limelight the very obvious block against Mr. Russell in the stubborn mayoral candidacy of the 4th District's State Senator Clarence M. Mitchell 3rd.

Despite some resulting community pressure, other community indecision, the youthful Mr. Mitchell refused to bow out — and leveled a sharp campaign against Mr. Russell.

It is noteworthy he chose to almost ignore Mr. Schaefer — the front running white candidate.

It is further noteworthy that when Mr. Schaefer won the primary — Mr. Mitchell was one of the first to endorse his candidacy.

This came as no surprise to a lot of veteran politics — observers who had more or less quietly contended he had been, actually, in the Schaefer camp all along.

Mr. Mitchell reportedly has denied this.

Painful results of the Sept. 14 Democratic Primary were that there survived just one more black nomination to a City Council seat — Clarence "Du" Burns, popular civic leader in the city's Eastside 2nd District.

Now some elements of the community are trying to salvage something in the Republican candidacies of Mrs. Margaret Dyer, incumbent comptroller, and Carl Adair for a 5th District Council seat — an area where black Council candidates knocked each other off in the primary with a too crowded field.

Realistically, with all promotional emotions viewed squarely — both campaigns are, at this point, an exercise in political futility.

Not only are the Republicans outnumbered almost six to one by Democrats in this city — they are beset with internal dissensions which split their own campaign efforts.

Though Democrats, Republicans and Independents can vote for the candidates of their choice in this primary, regardless of party — the candidacies of Mrs. Dyer, a knowledgeable civic personality, and Mr. Adair, a highly qualified Coppin College professor, have yet to catch on in their own black community.

Mrs. Dyer is pitted against Hyman A. Pressman, incumbent comptroller — and Mr. Adair seeks the seat of low-running Councilman Reuben Caplan in the primary — whom many of his constituents have branded as a conservative in respect to black citizenry interests.

As I see it — the city Republicans can write this whole election off, including its black candidates.

This means — the black community will come up with just one new Council seat (in the 2nd District), but a more liberal group of white Council members.

As I have said here previously — Baltimore is fortunate in that it can live and quite expectantly progress under Don Schaefer, the new mayor, barring a miracle.

He's a good man — a conscientious civic-minded public servant.

Meanwhile, the Mitchell versus Russell debacle that carried a lot of Council candidates to defeat, hopefully, has taught a lot of people a much needed lesson in political maturity.

But — there remains at least one consoling point for the still fretful nail-bitters.

It only hurts for a little while.

Next spring comes the presidential and congressional primary, and a short three years away in 1974 Maryland's gubernatorial elections — and then the following year another Baltimore municipal campaign, if the city is still in business for itself at that time.

They allow time for either getting rid of a lot of ridiculous political thinking — or compounding it for bigger and better sillyhandled campaigns.

NOW and THEN

Mandel Plan Seen Against Sen. Welcome

DR. FLEMING

By G. JAMES FLEMING

For years it has been said that the highest ambition of James H. Pollack, Northwest political leader, was to eliminate Senator Verda Welcome as an important voice and an important political power in Baltimore's Fourth Legislative District.

"Jack" Pollack has not succeeded and Senator Welcome's Fourth District Democratic Organization has remained the dominant Democratic organization of the predominantly black district — all-black for all practical political purposes.

But Senator Welcome, for the past two years, has had to share power, not only with Mr. Pollack, but also with the Metro Democratic Club and with Senator Clarence Mitchell III.

Both sides, separately or together, have been trying to put her out of business, politically speaking.

Now it appears that what Mr. Pollack could not do will be done by William A. Adams, architect of the citywide Metro organization and very close friend of Governor Mandel and those who made Governor Mandel, as governor, possible.

That is the only way to interpret the new State Senate district plan, proposed by the Governor in order to support the one manone vote edict of the Supreme Court.

Under the Mandel plan, black senators Clarence Blount, now of the Fifth District, and Robert Dalton, of the Second, are "taken care of."

Their new districts will insure their reelection, even when Senator Blount moves to a new home he plans to build (Both Blount and Dalton are on good terms with Mr. Adams).

When it comes to the present Fourth District, however, the boundary lines are so drawn that Senators Welcome and Mitchell will have "to knock each other's brains out" competing for one and the same senatorial seat.

Since Mr. Mitchell has always run ahead of all other candidates in the Fourth District, a Mitchell-Welcome contest has more than a 50-50 chance of ending in defeat for the veteran woman senator. And that is exactly what the anti-Welcome forces want.

The new plan is labelled "Mandel's," but political pros insist that they see the hand of William Adams, popular, well-heeled, generous, and politically smart!

If Senator Mitchell would run from his office address, rather than from his home, there would be no Welcome-Mitchell confrontation. But this is almost too much, to ask of Mr. Mitchell, it seems.

Of course, miracles can happen, and one Mitchell (Congressman Parren) last week did make a plea for unity among Baltimore blacks. But unity has so many different meanings!

The reduction of representation for Baltimore City had to come. For years, our city has been losing population to the counties. Reapportionment, whether via Mandel or any other way, will reduce Baltimore City's senatorial representation from 12 to 10, and its Delegates from 43 to 33. It will not be surprising, then, if Baltimore blacks lose one Senate seat and some House of Delegate seats.

This will happen, unless our present legislators close ranks, forget past bickerings, and fight to keep what blacks have, or gain more, in representation.

Being 47 per cent of the city's population, blacks are not, even at present, proportionally represented in the legislature.

When many good people fought to get more representation for the cities (the urban areas), as against the rural vote, they did not anticipate that, instead of the cities securing more political power, such increased power would go to the urban suburbs.

These suburbs, politically, are anti-city and against the people who visibly dominate the cities — the blacks.

One of the curious wrinkles in the senatorial reapportionment affecting Senator Welcome is that the senator was not invited to the advance screening session in the governor's office to which some other senators were invited, including some black ones.

Mrs. Welcome had no chance to fight to protect herself, if our information is correct (On this whole issue she holds to "No comment").

Both Senators Mitchell and Welcome were brought in after the plan was completed.

No one would call Senator Mitchell a "Mandel man," but most of Senator Welcome's followers, consider her "close" to the governor.

She has a high pro-Mandel voting record. And "she leans backwards not to offend him," as one Annapolis observer told this column.

It seems that Senator Welcome is not getting much reward for her "leaning backwards."

Of course, this is not the first time that, when the governor has had to take sides, he has chosen to go Metro. It is reported that even in the founding year of Metro, that organization received more campaign funds from Mandel sources than did the Welcome organization.

Why do some people want to still the voice of Verda Welcome — so much so that she was shot seven years ago, when an attempt was made on her life?

Perhaps she is not political enough.

Perhaps she is "too naive" or "too honest" to make deals against the interests of her people and her constituents.

Perhaps she is just a woman and most men do not like women leaders.

Or is there another reason?

Some of the senator's chief antagonists might not even be in politics today if she had not fought the Pollack forces in 1966.

Some could not have run if she had not substantially financed their campaign and raised money for the same purpose.

The new Mandel reapportionment plan, as it now stands, is an anti-Welcome plan.

A 6-INCH high steel safe will be installed in city cabs by this weekend, the Public Service Commission's transportation director, Joseph Giardina, told the AFRO. Driver John Griffin (above) said his safe left, and at his foot, right, relieves him from having to store his cash in the trunk of the cab.

New Safes In Cabs To Thwart Robbers

By this weekend, all city cabs should be equipped with vaults into which drivers are instructed to stash all but $5 in change.

This is the most recent step taken by the Public Service Commission to do "anything in reason to protect cab drivers," said Joseph Giardina, director of the Commission's transportation division.

Each safe, bolted to the floor of the cab just below the short-wave radio, can be opened only at the terminal where the key is kept.

Lt. Col. Donald Shanahan, who receives all reports of cab robberies and attempted robberies, told the AFRO he has not determined whether the cab involved contained a safe.

And as of Tuesday, the police planning and research division has not made any tabulations indicating trends in recent cab holdups, says Police Public Information Director Dennis Hill.

Furthermore, Giardina, who ordered safes to be installed, remarked his office has yet to seek police reports of recent taxi robberies.

These safes, which cost $19 apiece, plus installation, were first used in Philadelphia with great success, said Lou Alpert, personnel manager for Diamond Cab.

The decision to install the vaults was made jointly by the Commission, police and union officials.

Before the decision to use safes, Giardina explained, the Commission helped institute more concentrated police surveillance.

Also, about 70 policemen currently moonlight as cab drivers to reduce the extent of cab robberies, Giardina added.

Stickers on cabs inform riders that the driver has only $5 in change and does not have a key to the 6-inch high strong box.

Before John Griffin of Diamond Cab had a safe, he told the AFRO he would protect his intake which amounted to $40 or $50, by storing it in his trunk or dropping it off at home.

Griffin's cab was one of the first to obtain a safe.

Can a safe be removed from a cab?

No, say the experts, not unless one has the combination to open the safe to get to the bolts.

Lottery And Bets

Three things the lottery in New Jersey seems to be doing. (1) raise money for the state, (2) create some instant millionaires, and (3)-displace the illegal number racket.

The New Jersey state lottery has reportedly caused a sharp drop in the income of the illegal numbers racket with businesses in some areas falling off as much as 50 or 60 per cent. No doubt they will take their business elsewhere.

This little state of New Jersey sold $78 million in lottery tickets in the month of July.

These millions came from a 50 cent weekly ticket with a top prize of $50,000 and the millionaires' lottery where tickets are sold for $2.50 and the prize is $50,000 each year for the next 20 years.

Oldtimers may sit around and lament over the fact that no longer can a two cent hit pay the rent or no longer is the business run by black backers and writers.

But while they are remembering, it might be well for cities like Baltimore, Washington and Richmond to take a more than casual look at what is happening in New Jersey.

Who really controls the state lottery? Who wins? What is the state doing with the money? $78 million in one month is a lot of power and the color is green in white hands and not black.

As the gambling bill to create a state lottery and off-track betting progresses in the Maryland State legislature, we are hoping members of the General Assembly will begin to do some research on their own.

In addition, more public hearings should be held, despite the objection of some of the members of the Legislative Council's Committee on Fiscal Planning.

If little New Jersey can bring in $78 million in one month for a lottery alone, Maryland can foresee income over a billion—and that's a whole lot of political power.

Nixonomics

By PARREN J. MITCHELL (D.-7th, Md.)

Part 2: — Potential losses to black America: — The announced cutback in federal spending of nearly $8 billion will hurt blacks.

Urban programs may be more adversely affected than space, defense and environmental programs.

The President was unclear on this, but in his general approach of spreading most of the short-run sacrifice among the unionized working class, the reductions may be blanket or across-the-board rather than selective on some basis of social and national priorities.

Indeed, blacks may experience a disproportionate share of the 5 per cent reduction in federal employment required by the new policies.

Likewise, postponement of welfare reform for one year will tend to hurt blacks.

This means that a desperately needed income policy (income maintenance in some form of guaranteed minimum, family assistance, negative income tax, etc.) will not get a push from the administration where impetus is badly needed.

However, blacks will probably lose most directly of all in tax enforcement of the freeze guidelines.

Given the typically inadequate information base in the black community, many will not even be aware of or will be unable to detect price exchanges, especially; or may not complain when increases occur.

Unless special efforts are made to ensure compliance in the black community, not even a chill on prices and rents will be recorded between August 15 and November 12, 1971.

The new Nixon policies are being exaggerated for psychological and other "shock" efforts!

Grandiose claims are being made for them. (Even the President suggested that they are the "most comprehensive new economic policy to be undertaken by this nation in four decades," . . . i.e. since the depression of the 30s).

As blacks, we must recognize that they are general rather than selective policies.

They rely on "trickle-down" to bring specific benefits to the black community.

In the final analysis, it is very likely another situation in which blacks on balance may be helped, but whites will be helped much more.

For the benefit of blacks as well as the Nation as a whole, we must challenge the Nixon Administration to adapt the new economic policies so that they meet more of the needs of black America directly and not by relying exclusively on "trickle-down" to provide positive and substantive gains for black America.

Today's Dress

Dear AFRO:

In browsing the newspaper, my attention was caught in the web of Halloween costumes. This struck me as quite funny since today's dress reminds me so much of Halloween anyway.

I wrote a poem concerning the styles and hope you will print it for light reading.

LYDIA BROWN

(Editor's Note: Excerpts of the Brown poem follow:

How can I mask for Halloween this year
and the years to come. In trying to keep
up with the styles, Halloween's everyday
for some. Designers are sitting back
laughing at their modes we run and buy as
if it were our purpose to all codes of ethics
defy.

I can't mask as a Western on this day of
dressing up, cause hats, belts, boots and
tight pants are popular as a cheap tea cup.

I can't dress as an old granny I see old
women for miles. Since granny glasses
and granny dresses seem to be the style.

A woman no longer masks as a man, or
a man as a woman no less. The long hair
and the flat chested look makes it
anybody's guess.

It's hard to disguise as a hobo, for
dungarees, knapsack and beard, is a style
that we see everyday. For Halloween
that's not weird.

It's senseless for a white man to try to
disguise as a black. Since Black is
Beautiful is the thing, his grease paint for
humor will lack.

At one time, teeny, weeny plaits were
part of our Halloween dress. Now since
braided hair is in, it's part of this modern
mess.

And did the painted people, who adorn
our every stage, forget the paint for
Halloween, that won't be any rage.

Can't make as a hippie or flower child.

On this day, that disguise may not blend
in a time for celebrating. Who knows in
which state I may end?

I won't attempt to face make-up cause
that won't be a disguise, shiny make up,
redder lipstick, eyeliners are among the
first cosmetic buys.

Going Afro is out of the question, for this
gala masquerade dishikis, mu-mus and
head-dress are musts in the fashion
parade.

Even the joys of trick or treat heed not
pave a way.

For the black man is constantly being
tricked, each and every day.

Maxi with mini, midi with boots, all
colors, styles and sizes.

With floppy hats and hot pants, gives us
everyday disguises. I'm going to a
fabulous masquerade this coming
Halloween. In a knee length dress and
pumps, no less, and feel I look like a
queen.

Treat Or Trick

The above-thirty generation in the U.S. today would do well to harken back to the days when their parents had never heard of the words "Trick or Treat."

At least their mothers and dads didn't allow them to go from door to door begging—and that's all "Trick or Treat" is.

It has only been about 20 years or more since this Halloween custom began and it can't end too soon.

Parents who let their precious darlings ring doorbells of strangers, weirdos and mean old men and women to beg for treats, shouldn't be so shocked to discover that these persons have shown their real, sadistic nature by a trick—a razor blade in an apple; a needle in a candy bar; moth balls made to look like pop corn, or tackfilled candy.

On the one hand, overly protective parents urge their children not to speak to strangers and at the same time, one day a year on Halloween they let them go to strange homes begging for handouts.

Don't let your youngsters get tricked under the guise of receiving a free treat.

Take them to the home of friends and let them parade their Halloween costumes in their own block or neighborhood.

What The AFRO Stands For

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.

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.

The Freeze And You

This column of questions and answers on the Wage and Price Freeze is provided by the local office of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and is published as a public service. The column answers questions most frequently asked about the Wage and Price freeze announced August 15 by President Nixon.

Q — My health insurance program at work is having its annual "open season." It's only at this time that an employee can increase his benefits or change programs. Is this considered a fringe benefit prohibited by the freeze?

A — No. The fringe benefit prohibition does not apply to those benefit programs that, according to established practice, require an employee to exercise his right to join a program or to increase his benefits at a single specified time during the year or lose the opportunity to do so for at least a year. In such an instance, the employee may exercise his right even though the specified enrollment time falls within the freeze period.

Afro Credo

I measure a newspaper not in buildings, equipment and employees—those are trimmings.

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

Whether it has kept faith with the common people;

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

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

Whether it stays out of politics except injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR.
December 25, 1920

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Collard Plant Five Feet Tall

Mrs. Esther Webster, 63, a grandmother with a warm and bubbling personality has grown a huge collard plant in her backyard.

Mrs. Webster displayed her soul food plant for the AFRO this week.

She planted her Harlem Ave., garden in the spring and included the collard plant among her flowers, beets, string beans and carrots. The collard stands five feet.

"I didn't do anything special to it, just put my favorite brand of fertilizer on it," she explained.

The vegetable, which she calls a Georgia collard, stands alone in the plot.

The other plants have been removed like the collard plant almost the size of the Georgia collard, which she gave to a neighbor.

Mrs. Webster is from Kingston, N.C., but came to Baltimore when she was 18. While in Baltimore she has joined the Canaan Baptist Church.

She has planted a garden for four seasons since she has been living with her son, Raymond Hicks, who is a widower, and keeping his five children.

The five grandchildren, are Raymond Jr., 21, in the Navy; Rudolph Jerome, 19, a technician at John Hopkins Hospital; Douglas Tyrone, 17, a junior at Edmondson High; Sheila Juanita, 16, a 10th gradeer at Western and Victor Alonzo, 13, who attends Lynhurst Elementary.

She is also the great grandmother of Raymond, III, 3, and Katrina Wall, 18-months-old.

As the AFRO left her home, Mrs. Webster remarked, "When everybody stops coming to look at the collard, I'm going to cut it and eat it I'd hate for it to go to waste.

"I'll be tickled if the AFRO would come and eat with me. I'll let you know when I cut it down."

Here is Mrs. Webster's recipe for cooking soul food collard green: "Get a piece of country meat, ham, ham hock or salt fatback or you can use bacon drippings.

"Cook the meat until tender and add a little red pepper to the water to give it a country taste. My mother used to raise red pepper in North Carolina. This is the old way of doing.

"Now, wash your collard greens real good until there is no dirt or bugs in them. I brush mine leaf by leaf with a brush to make sure they're clean.

"Put the greens in the pot with water, meat and cook until tender, take greens out of the pot, drain off water, skim grease off the water and put on greens.

"Cut greens up with knife and fork. Then they are ready to eat with some good country corn bread." — P.C.

FIVE-FOOT COLLARD planted by Mrs. Esther Webster, 63, of 3605 Harlem Ave. in her backyard. She nursed the huge vegetable with her favorite fertilizer to its present size.

PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro-American

October 30, 1971 A-5

IF YOU ASK ME

MRS. MOSS

By BETTY MOSS

The entire Baltimore community suffered a severe loss last week with the death of two dedicated teachers, Ruth White Lighston, 59, Cherry Hill Junior High counselor; and Mrs. Sarah Myers Roach, 57, principal of Elementary School No. 73.

Both had two things in common — unselfish concern for others.

Mrs. Lighston had boundless energy and shared her sunny disposition with hundreds.

She loved children—not just her own—but other people's and she delighted in seeing them achieve.

She was the kind of concientious person who never gave up on any child.

Ruth White Lighston was also a person who volunteered her time when others stood back.

I can see her now in Jack and Jill, in her church, in her sorority (Delta Sigma Theta).

When there was need for a job to be done, Ruth was among the first to say "I'll do it."

And with all her activities, she was never too busy to see that the kids got to music lesson, rehearsals, school plays, the theatre. She did all the things real mothers do and still found time to be a companion to her physician-husband, Dr. Ronald Lighston.

She was indeed a grand person and friend.

As we said in school board meeting last week when fellow members voted unanimously to name School No. 73 for Sarah Roach, the city was doing itself an honor.

Like Ruth, Sarah was the kind of friendly, efficient and warm person who made the sun shine wherever she went.

This writer first met her while we were growing up in Morgan Park, where Sarah and her husband, Calvin Roach Sr., built what we used to call 'the pretty new house on Ivy Ave.'

Through the years, she has been the understanding teacher, vice-principal and then principal who accepted difficult assignments without grumbling and made the best of the situation.

When she became principal of the old (75 years) Elementary School No. 73 in the 3400 block Old Frederick Rd., it was typical of our older schools—bare, unattractive and heated with a coal oil stove.

When PTA president, Calvin Quille and community representatives, Mrs. Gertrude Wallace and Mrs. Mary Maddox, appeared before the School Board last Thursday evening, they told how Mrs. Roach turned the dilapidated school into "a warm and comfortable place" for children to learn.

They alluded to her concern for children, parents and teachers even at the expense of her own health.

And, for the first time in history the School Board named a new school for a principal the day after the funeral. The Sarah Roach School No. 73 was dedicated yesterday.

Unfortunately, Mrs. Roach was not well-enough to return to school this fall and so did not live to see the new 20-room $992,000 structure erected adjoining the old school site.

Somehow, though, as I listened to remarks of dedication participants, I had a feeling Sarah Roach was there in spirit and was mighty pleased.

She was a grand person who truly put her heart and her life in the school and its children.

Cuff note to Cherry Hill Junior High community: If enough parents and community leaders so desire, that school could carry the name of one of its devoted supporters, Ruth White Lighston.

Cuff note: It couldn't happen to two nicer people—Bessie Carroll and Joseph Proctor—that is.

It was a second marriage for both on Oct. 9 at St. James P. E. Church before immediate families. She is the public school secretary. He is the public school engineering chief.

Among highlights of this busy weekend is the annual benefit card party sponsored by Big Sister Inc.;

It's this Saturday at noon at the Sheraton Baltimore Inn on Broadway.

They tell me a number of guests will be starting their day there, with lunch, a view of the Pauline Brooks fashions and maybe a hand or two of cards of their choice (pinochle, bridge, bingo, etc.), to vie for some handsome prizes, and then they are going to catch the last half of the Morgan-A and T Homecoming game.

President of Big Sisters Inc. is Cathryn Parker. Chairman of the benefit committee is Doris Wiggins. See you there!

Hurry-up-and-get-well-cards, please, to Mrs. Bernice S. White, the Social Security executive. Address your hellos to her at 3032 Mondawmin Ave.

Many know Mrs. White as the author of "It's Not A Man's World," which appears regularly on this page.

Mrs. White, who had major surgery, was released from the hospital on Saturday. Keep the spirits up, please.

Also on the mend, Mrs. Virgie Wood Waters (mom of Junky, and Buddy Wood and Toma Collins). She had been hospitalized for five weeks in Louisville, Ky. She sustained painful injuries in a fall while visiting relatives there.

She's up and about now at the home of daughter Iona, and son-in-law, Howard Collins. Address your hellos to 3805 Edgewood Rd. here in Baltimore.

By the way, Mrs. Waters' pal, Mrs. J. Logan Jenkins Sr., another good neighbor has been ailing, will be back at her home on College Ave. in Morgan Park by the time you read this.

Continue sunshine, please, to another good neighbor, Mrs. Carl Norwood, (Sarah), wife of the florist. Like her husband, she has spent a lifetime spreading joy through flowers.

For the past year, she has been in and out of the hospital. On Sunday, she came home after a five-week stay. Your special thoughts will reach her if addressed to 3402 Grantley Rd.

Glad you're better cards to Mrs. Clarence Blount (Gordine). She's the wife of the 5th District state senator who is also coordinator of the new Dunbar High.

She had surgery, is recuperating at home.

Speaking of Dunbar, the new principal there is Raymond Carpenter. It was like seeing a dream take shape at ground-breaking exercises there yesterday.

In not too many months, this East Baltimore community, which has never in history had a brand new $12 million high school opened by black youngsters will see that come to pass.

And, community leaders like Mrs. Hattie Harrison can take a bow.

It will be a great day. Just like it was last week when Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro 3rd, led dedication of the $13 million Lake Clifton High and the $8 million Walbrook High.

If Dunbar students want to see what a spanking new high school looks like, we suggest they ask their teachers to arrange tours of these beautiful new facilities. They are sights to behold — beyond one's wildest dreams.

Orchids to Mayor D'Alesandro. He has truly lived up to his commitment for quality education for all.

Last week and this, he dedicated nine new schools, broke ground for 3, bringing the total to 18 new schools and 9 additions in his three years in office. They cost a total of over $124,035,965!!

What makes this writer mightly proud is that like many AFRO readers over 30 we nor our parents had an opportunity to go to new schools.

Our grandchildren are, thanks to Mr. D'Alesandro's commitment, thanks to a hard-working school board which implemented his plans, thanks to taxpayers who supported the school loan bonds.

More cuff notes: At all of the schools dedicated this week and last, the majority of the pupils enrolled looked like you and me and that's saying something.

Real thrill on Thursday was seeing Mrs. Furman L. Templeton, widow of the beloved Urban League executive.

Ground was broken for School No. 125 at Pennsylvania Ave. and Dolphin St. (where the old Colored High once stood).

Named the Furman L. Templeton Elementary School, it will be 31-classroom, $3 million dream, thanks to community leaders like Upton Planner Mrs. Lena Boone.

Star of the dedication day was 7-year-old Janet Lilly, pretty as a picture in a red, white and blue dress.

She was selected to introduce the mayor. Speaking without notes, she stood straight and tall, thanked the city fathers for planning the new facility and added: 'We're sorry you won't be our mayor much longer but we hope you'll tell the new mayor to finish our school . . . we have waited so long.'

She was terrific and the audience gave her resounding applause.

More notes: Janet is in the second grade at old School No. 118 now. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Lilly of N. Fremont Ave.

Her dad is an oil firm employee and her mother (Dorothy), is a nurse at St. Agnes Hospital.

She has a brother, Eric, 11, who is in the sixth grade at the same school.

Other sisters and brothers are James, 16; Roxanne, 15; Derrick, 13; and Tony, 12.

Prediction: This Lilly child is going far. Remember you read it here first!!

MOVIE REVIEW

Man And Boy

By MADELINE MURPHY

Two hundred persons attended the National Negro College Band, Women's Division premiere showing of Bill Cosby's movie "Man and Boy," at the New Theatre, Tuesday, October 25.

Although the crowd was disappointed because Bill Cosby did not appear, they were amply rewarded by the warm, sophisticated Cosby Gemmin Production.

The story centered around a black Union soldier, his wife and son valiantly struggling to farm 14 hard stony acres of homestead land, and their need for a mule (the wife's practical solution); or for a horse (the husband's and son's romantic notion).

Bill Cosby, as Caleb Revers, becomes owner of a horse he "unsucessfully" doctors by not shooting it, and wheedling it out of the white land owner, for his son, Billy.

Billy is so proud of the horse, he rides to town to show it off. He childishly plays, then fights with hostile boys and the horse is stolen.

The story unfolds through misadventures and adventures of Caleb and Bill as they trek through the scenic colorful southwest, toward the Mexican border to track down horse and horse thief.

The warm, believable acting of Bill Cosby, Gloria Foster, as the mother, and Billy; the simple plot and typical language of black characters, give strength and meaning to history of black men during Post-Civil War days.

A ruthless black gunfighter, Lee Christmas, a preening black "buck", who takes on Caleb in a knock-down drag-out fight, lend excitement and credence to little known facts about manly black cowboys and settlers in the Old West.

This picture, rated G, is worthwhile, rich entertainment for the entire family.