Baltimore Afro-American

May we let our light so shine that it will illuminate that which is good and beautiful, and magnify our Father which is in heaven. May we stand strong and firm against despair, falsehood, rudeness, hatred, pessimism and prejudice.

Carl Murphy,
Editor-Publisher — 1892-1967

A-4 JANUARY 29, 1972

Stop, Pat And Frisk

Gov. Marvin Mandel exhibits why he is known as a master politician with his "pat and frisk" bill.

He makes political hay with the conservatives and liberals who are concerned about crime while angering no critically large bloc of voters other than blacks—and he feels he has enough influence with their leaders to push them around a bit and still hold their support as Democrats.

Unlike other groups with somewhat selfish or technical reasons for opposing "pat and frisk," we are boxed in psychologically because the bill appears to meet Supreme Court requirements for legality despite our fears such a law would open us up again to the historical abuse suffered at the hands of policemen.

Black people cannot stand by and accept passage of the bill without protest but when they oppose it they do so in the face of the concern of all about the use of guns in crimes.

One aspect of this situation has not received enough attention. The language of Mandel's "pat and frisk" section of the bill is so worded there is no question it was drawn up by an expert using the Supreme Court's ruling in Terry vs. Ohio as a guide.

That ruling gives policemen the right to stop and frisk a citizen if he has reasonable suspicion that the person may be carrying a weapon and this poses a threat to the officer or others.

For all practical purposes, that means Police Commissioner Donald Pomerleau is operating today a "pat and frisk" pattern of policing of the type called for in Mandel's bill—and approved by the Supreme Court.

Lawyers will argue pro and con the need for Maryland codification, but for the man in the street who is concerned about "pat and frisk," he should know that police can and are operating under such a provision now, and that an appeal to the Supreme Court would probably lose—if police operate within the law.

No less an authority than State's Atty. Milton Allen agrees that police already have authority to carry out "pat and frisk" searches.

Understanding the fears that run deep in our community about "pat and frisk" abuses, the AFRO has not been publicly promoting passage of Mandel's bill. The major reason for that position though is that there is nothing in it that will control crime, not even crimes committed by guns.

Those who press the fight against the bill should want to be clear on two important things: we now have "pat and frisk" police authority through a Supreme Court ruling and the police department must be called upon to keep its use of that power within the strict interpretation of the High Court ruling.

A New Awareness?

Baltimore's senators, with the backing of legislative leaders, have got the city's redistricting plans back on the right track. Their challenge now is to keep it that way.

It would be naive of the senators to think that their 8 to 4 vote in favor of the fair plan they okeyed back in November is home safe.

For what it's worth, they do have the word of Gov. Marvin Mandel that he will not again attempt to impose on the city a plan that favors conservatives and machine politics. But they will be wise to remember that it was the governor who attempted to ram such a plan down their throats in the face of their clear preference of one more in line with the realities of Baltimore today.

What the senators have to be aware of is the fact that other areas may be unhappy with some aspects of the state plan. Under such conditions, there are bound to be political deals for support of various plans. Discussions about changes in other areas should not be an area left solely to the governor and his lieutenants.

The AFRO thinks the 8 to 4 vote by the senators from Baltimore suggests a more united front on major issues in the future.

Voting together for the plan that gives moderates the most influential role in Baltimore were Senators Verda F. Welcome and Clarence Mitchell III, Fourth; Julian L. Lapides and Robert Dalton, Second; John Carroll Byrnes and J. Joseph Curran, Third, and Rosalie S. Abrams and Clarence W. Blount, Fifth.

It could be that Mandel's high-handed manner in trying to play them one against the other in his move to pull a switch of plans, may have given the city senators a new respect for their capacity to achieve for Baltimore by working together more than they did in the past.

Don't Get Bumped

The Baltimore City Board of Supervisors of Elections estimates there are 80,000 names on the books who are ineligible to vote in the upcoming Presidential election.

John C. Donohue, president, says some of these may be persons who are deceased, who have moved to new addresses and failed to change their registration, and others who may have left the city and are now voting elsewhere.

As of this week, President Donohue and his staff have begun a postcard survey at a cost of $60,000.

A facsimile of the card is published in this edition. Persons who receive cards at their homes which are not addressed to them are urged to return them promptly to the mailman. Under no circumstances should they forward them to the person's new address.

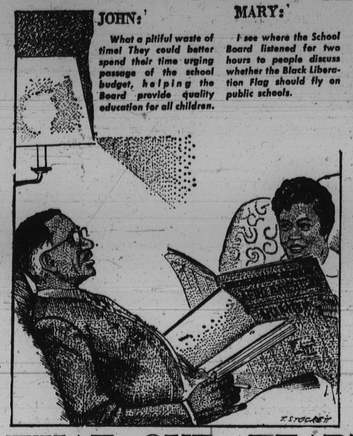
After two weeks, those persons illegally registered at an address for one reason or another will have a second notice to report their new address and qualify to vote.

AFRO readers who have moved since the last election, who have married, who are new to the city and have never voted, or who will become of age before next November's election, do not have to wait for a card.

They know now they must register to vote and they can do so daily at the Supervisors of Elections, located in the People's Court Building, Fayette and Gay Sts.

We urge AFRO readers to act promptly. It takes three minutes to register to vote.

It would be a pity to be bumped from the registration rolls in this important Presidential and Congressional election year.



WHAT 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.

Tremendous Asset

Dear AFRO:

Often, when things run smoothly, when no crises arise, we tend to take for granted the machinery that makes everything work. Similarly, when that machinery breaks down, or falters temporarily we complain immediately and lose patience.

I did not wish to let any more time pass without commenting on how grateful is the entire Provident Hospital Complex, for the enthusiastic support of the AFRO. Your prompt and excellent coverage of Provident happenings is a tremendous asset to us.

Not only the hospital itself, but its outreach programs and ancillary services as well have benefited from the AFRO's dedication to community service.

The Board of Trustees, Medical Staff, Administration Nursing Service, Community Mental Health Center, Provident Community Mental Health Advisory Board Inc., Neighborhood Health Center, Provident House, Project Adapt, and all the various neighborhood advisory boards and councils are better equipped to serve a community which understands their goals and purposes.

In providing the people of Baltimore with this information, the AFRO is performing a community service of tremendous magnitude for it is through your support that we at Provident are able to move forward with the knowledge that our programs are being explained and interpreted enthusiastically to the public.

CHARLES G. TILDON JR.
Associate Director for Development and Public Relations

More thanks

The AFRO's Mrs. Santa has received dozens of thank-you letters and cards from families she assisted at Christmas. Here are just a few:

Dear Mrs. Santa:

My children and I would like to thank you for the wonderful Christmas basket and food certificate. We also wish to thank everyone who made it possible for us to have a nice Christmas.

Mrs. S.L.

Dear Mrs. Santa:

Your kindness was appreciated more than words can say and I will never forget you. May God bless and protect you wherever you go.

Mrs. M.S.

Dear Mrs. Santa:

This little note is coming with a warm and special touch, to tell you most sincerely that I thank you very much for the gift you sent my children and me for the Christmas holiday.

W.T.

Dear Mrs. Santa:

My family and I had a lovely Christmas dinner thanks to you and your helpers. It's good to know there are people in this world like you who really care. I can't express the words I want to say.

The Williams family

Drug Program

Dear AFRO:

We are asking your assistance in helping the Cherry Hill Drug Abuse Program, 804 Cherry Hill Road, to make some aware and reinforce for others, the purpose of this program.

The goal is to prevent drug abuse and service drug addictions residing in Mount Winans, Cherry Hill, Fairfield, West Port and parts of Brooklyn.

The program offers 1) Total abstinence 2) urine surveillance, 3) methadone detoxification 4) methadone maintenance 5) counseling and group therapy 6) community projects 7) Brotherhood organization 8) recreation 9) educational projects.

We are open Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., (see new patients) 7 days a week 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

CORDELL HUNTER
Coordinator

Dear Mrs. Santa:

I appreciate the certificate you sent me for Christmas. It was a very fine gift. I was sick and very surprised when I received it. I thank you for making it possible for me to have a happy holiday.

Mrs. V. S.

About Harvard

Dear AFRO:

In reference to an article written in the AFRO, January 1, 1972, reporting a student home from Harvard for the holidays:—

Why do we as blacks have to make such a fuss over a black going to Harvard? Blacks have been going to Harvard for decades and will continue to go there. We have proven that we can make it at any college or university in the world; so what's the point?

The only reason Harvard is such a highly rated institution is because it carries on massive research, has money, and has a faculty full of famous Ph.D's professors.

I ask you this. Can these professors of Harvard teach better than the professors at a black institution?

I am talking of the ability to teach. If we set up a system where schools are rated on their ability to teach, we might find some black schools up there.

The present system of rating institutions discriminates, not only to black schools, but their white counterparts also.

MARK W. HARRISON

Not Very Best

Dear AFRO:

Remembering that "a man's works lives after him," why not could the good and brilliance of Dr. Russell H. Carrington Jr. been portrayed, as opposed to the sordid and cruel, step-by-step account of his personal life reported in your Friday's issue.

Certainly it was your desire to sell your paper, and not your compassion, which prompted you to disregard the details of a (perhaps) sensitive wife; tender and impressionable young children; satisfied dental patients; and a public who may not be as vicious as you had hoped.

In my opinion this was not your very best art of journalism.

(Mrs.) LORETTA L. TAZWELL

Zip Code Only

Dear AFRO:

Suggestion regarding millions of pieces of mail and packages mailed in Baltimore for Baltimore: — ELIMINATE BALTIMORE, MD. SHOW ZIP CODE ONLY.

Savings would be considerable in reduced need of pencils, typewriter ribbons, time, etc. If proved to have merit, it could be introduced nationwide. • B. J. SMALL

Youth Seek Simple Honesty From Adults

By KING V. CHEEK

(Ed's Note: This is the second of two articles by Dr. Cheek, who is president of Morgan State College. In last week's article, he discussed the parental attitude that children should not be disciplined or deprived of their freedom. Because the young are restless and unable to tolerate frustration and delay, their demands are readily accepted, he said.)

Adults readily grant freedom but they respond to their own instincts to be protective so that their children very seldom have to suffer the results of their mistakes.

We cannot afford to permit them to suffer. However hard we try, we cannot avoid the maternalistic and paternalistic instinct.

There is also the factor of prolonged adolescence. Even though young people are maturing faster, their adolescence is extended by many of the rules in our society.

Of the many pressures which confront young people involuntary college attendance is one of the greatest.

The parental and societal pressures upon youth to attend college immediately after high school and the stigmas attached to those who don't force many young people into captive situations.

Because our world has defined a college degree as a condition of success and frowns upon its deferment, many students are now in college for non-intellectual and non-educational reasons.

Because their options are limited their frustrations are increased.

We cannot neglect to mention our increasing inclination toward the affluent society and materialism.

Parents caught up in their own economic advancement have little time to devote to value development in their children.

This apparent decline in parenthood also appears to be accompanied by a decline in religious values. Faith no longer provides the support it once did. The result is an absence of reference points for our youth to make their qualitative and value judgments.

If these conditions and environmental forces are not enough, we can add the final and overwhelming frustration of the imminence or the threat of the end.

Never before has a generation faced the stark reality that man's destruction of himself appears not only possible but probable.

At least the doubt of the possible has been removed.

For many, hope for the future is slim. It is dim and uncertain.

All of these pressures weigh heavily on the hearts and emotions of our young. The reactions are varied.

Some will cop out with a trip on drugs believing that they can escape or relieve these pressures.

Others cease to believe there is enough left for them to care. They, too, substitute the momentary thrill or kick of dope for the many burdens they must bear.

Many of them believe they can only live for the moment because the future is so uncertain, "Live fast, die young and have a good looking corpse" seems to be the creed many have adopted.

There are others who, because of the uncertainty of the future, are moved to protect their inheritance. They not only want to begin to influence coming attractions but they also intend to prepare for them.

Political stability, economic security and other conditions of life become stated goals to be passionately pursued.

We certainly cannot commit the blunder of viewing youth as they so often see adults — in monolithic terms.

Though there are characteristics which are generally common there are sufficient differences in style and reactions to force us to avoid the tendency to over generalize.

Once we understand the under-thirty generation and the varied conditions influencing our development, what will be our responses?

I believe we should begin by eliminating condemnation and by understanding that the youth of today are products of an older adult society and the conditions of life this society has created.

Therefore, older adults have a unique responsibility—not to condemn but to re-create a relationship and pattern of life which can reverse some undesirable trends.

We need first to recognize hope for the future in the idealism and discontent of today's youth.

Second, fear of confrontation with them and their demands must cease. We cannot retreat each time there is a conflict. At the least we must insist upon reason and honesty for ourselves as well as for them.

So long as older adults permit younger adults to do what they please simply because it is they who please—regardless of whether they have reasoned that what they please to do is right—we will continue to have a crisis in faith and confidence.

Much of what the young demand of their elders is simple honesty. This cannot be given if confrontation is avoided.

DR. CHEEK

(Continued Next Week)

WASHINGTON REPORT

Afro-American Bicentennial

By PARREN J. MITCHELL
M.C., House of Representatives, D.-7th Md.

The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission is moving ahead with its plans to celebrate this Nations 200th birthday.

With notably few exceptions the plans were being developed without meaningful inputs from Black Americans and with little, if any, attention being given to the contributions of Black Americans.

Hopefully this situation will be remedied because of the dogged determination of two black brothers, Robert and Vincent DeForest who have created the Afro-American Bicentennial Corporation.

On January 15, this writer had the pleasure of addressing a distinguished array of black citizens convened by the Afro-American Bicentennial Corporation. . . our own Dr. Benjamin Quarles, C. Erle Lincoln, Chuck Stone, Dr. Roland McConnell, Morgan State College, Dr. Charles Wesley were in attendance . . . along with other Black intellectual giants.

REP. MITCHELL

The purpose of the meeting was to set forth conclusions on how to best commemorate the Black heritage as a feature of the American Revolution through the medium of historic sites and buildings.

Black Americans should be grateful for these efforts. We are already two years into the Bicentennial era and have only four years remaining before 1976 is upon us.

Senator Mathias has noted in a speech on the Senate Floor that no one on the BiCentennial Commission was under 42 years of age, only one of the public members is Black, there are no Indians or Spanish-speaking Americans on the Commission.

Black Americans must be significantly involved. As Vincent DeForest puts it "perhaps it is because we have experienced the spirit of that revolution in our own lives.

". . . We know that it is a continuing thing. And we believe much of the leadership for continuing the American Revolution in recent decades has come from Black Americans."

As we plan locally in Baltimore and in Maryland our participation in the 1976 celebration we must act to insure that our plans mesh with the idea of the continuing revolution.

Our plans must include, not merely the external trappings, but must support the movement toward self-realization and self government by people determined not to be kept in a subject status.

Our local plans should focus on "overcoming the problems of dependency, and on humanizing an increasingly impersonal, bureaucratized and mechanistic society."

I hope that the black leaders and black organizations of Baltimore City will emulate the actions of the Afro-American bicentennial Corporation.

Our Credo

I measure a newspaper not in building, equipment and employes — 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 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 injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR.
December 25, 1920

NOW and THEN

George Wallace 'As Dems' VP Seems Possible

By G. JAMES FLEMING

Can anyone imagine the Democratic Party choosing George Wallace as its vice-presidential candidate in 1972?

Sounds far-fetched?

In January it may be far-fetched and, outside of politics, it would be far-fetched, but by convention time, it may make good sense.

First of all, Wallace is not as verbally and violently race-baiting as he used to be. He has taken a cue from other Southern governors and is no longer trying to "out-nigger" every opponent.

In the second place, he is seen this year as a really serious candidate, with a chance of pulling the votes, not only of white Southerners, but also of increasing numbers of Northern and Western "hard hats," suburbanites and others disillusioned with both Democrats and Republicans.

DR. FLEMING

Right now, the Republicans are more afraid of the drawing power of the governor of Alabama than they are of any of the Democratic aspirants for the presidency.

They fear Wallace's leading a third party that will split the anti-busing and anti-Democratic votes—votes the Republicans want. With such splitting Nixon might lose a second term by just a few percentage points.

The Democrats also fear Wallace at the head of a third party or his carrying on a campaign against the Democratic ticket.

With this fear uppermost in their mind, "practical" Democrats have been whispering that a good way "to take care of Wallace" is to harness him into the Democratic ticket as vice-presidential candidate.

This Wallace-for-Vice-President idea would start something! Many Democrats would have to save face; some would have to eat crow; still others would refuse to vote for any ticket carrying Wallace.

"Nixon-haters," of all parties and no parties, would be faced with sitting out the 1972 election or swallowing Nixon and Agnew.

The practical Democrats see Wallace bringing with him his usual following, together with all the backlash groups up in arms, not only again schoolbusing, but also against price-control.

It will be a case of the Democrats weighing Wallace-expected gains for them against the sure support of blacks and liberals. Then, too, ask some Democratic pros, "Where are the blacks going if they leave us?"

Don't be surprised, if you are a Democrat. It may be "Wallace for Vice-President"—even if that may put him a heartbeat away from the Presidency.

That's a blue-ribbon committee that is sponsoring a pre-campaign testimonial to Rep. Parren J. Mitchell on March 5 ($50 per person). This campaign won't be the shoe-string effort of 1970. All the world loves a winner, it is said.

As it should be, the Congressman Mitchell forces are "running scared," as if all the world is opposing them. No smart politician even takes anything (especially victory) for granted.

This column has come across people who feel the Congressman from the Seventh District "should have" opposition—but these same persons say that, to date, there is no one who stands a chance of defeating him in the Democratic primary.

Down Texas way, the courts have rejected a reapportionment plan that seemed destined to send the first black person to Congress since Reconstruction. The front-running aspirant is State Senator Barbara Jordan, a lawyer. Miss Jordan spoke in Baltimore last December on Morgan's Bill of Rights Day program.

Back to Baltimore, we wonder if Attorney Leonard Kerpelman is "for real" in his suit to break down county lines where public education is concerned.

His is a Baltimore version of the Richmond, Va., case in which a U.S. District judge ordered new boundary lines for school districts so that city children might attend county schools and vice versa.

In the new districts no school would have more than a 75 per cent white student body, and all-white schools would be a thing of the past. All-black schools would go also.

Of course, this decision is being appealed.

In the Baltimore case, the nearly all-white county schools would get an infusion of city young people, many of whom could be black. However, some county voices say it will not work this way.

Any crossing of county lines will bring more city whites than blacks into the county schools, the argument goes, with some statistics to support it.

What is confusing is that Mr. Kerpelman is the lawyer in the case. Once a card-carrying member of the Baltimore NAACP, he turned sour in the 1960's when blacks increased the intensity of their marches, sit-ins, kneel-ins and other confrontations.

He seems to be the last one (lawyer) who would want to wage a battle of this kind.

It will take years before this new approach to school desegregation gets to the Supreme Court for final adjudication.

THE JOB HUNTER

Direct your questions about possible careers, training opportunities, job openings, and the Maryland State Employment Service in Labor Market Information, Room 205, 1100 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201.

Q. I run an auto parts store. I need a parts man who's sober, fast, and knows something about cars. Where should I call?

A. Call the Job Bank at 383-5541. You'll see as many people as you want, and the final selection is up to you.

Of course, there's no charge for this service.

Q. About a year ago, I lost an arm in an auto accident. Now I'm ready to go back to work. Can the Employment Service help me?

A. Probably so. Talk to an employment counselor at any office of the State Employment Service. He can refer you to the unit serving the handicapped.

Q. Must a person be drawing unemployment insurance to use the services of the Employment Service?

A. Definitely not. Even if you are employed, but seeking a better job, you are welcome to review the job listings in the Job Bank Book at any office of the State Employment Service. Ask the receptionist to direct you to the Self-Service area.

Q. I really like drafting. And my highest grades are in mechanical drawing. But I still have another year of high school left. If I drop out, do you think I could get a job.

A. Stay in school. No matter how good you are, most employers will not hire you without a high school diploma. A few might hire you, but your salary will be considerably lower than that of a high school graduate.

Parents Suggest Solution To School Disruptions

Dear AFRO:

The following suggestions for controlling disruptions in public schools were made by two Northwest Baltimore mothers and directed to the attention of new superintendent, Dr. Roland N. Patterson:

As two concerned parents of school age children we are aware of the problem of maintaining acceptable levels of safety in our public schools. We are also aware that only in such an atmosphere can meaningful instruction and learning take place.

We would like to suggest a plan which may minimize the disruptive conditions which are often caused by unauthorized visitors and non-students in a school.

Our proposal is based on the use of parent volunteers who would serve primarily as school aides and whose prime responsibility would be the maintenance of order and safety in the school, other than in the classroom.

We are not sufficiently knowledgable about the internal organization of the school system to be able to determine the problems of implementing such a program, which at first glance might seem like a radical departure from the traditional role that parents have been asked to play in the education of their children.

Since the majority of parents are aware of the increasing problem of maintaining safe conditions in the schools, we feel that given the chance they will be willing to cooperate with the plan that we are suggesting.

We realize that this would have to be an effort by individual schools, but a general guideline plan can be proposed for all schools to follow.

Suggested Guidelines for the Implementation of the Parent Participation Program;

1. That each family who has a child enrolled in a school, be strongly urged to spend a specific amount of time in the school each week. (We would suggest 1 hour per week)

2. For parents who have children enrolled in one or more schools, participation at one school would seem to be sufficient.

3. Many parents work. Consider the possibility of accepting suitable parent substitutes, other members of the community, who are not necessarily parents. The parent might be charged with the responsibility of finding a suitable replacement.

4. A system of identifying; scheduling and registering parent participants in a school should be developed.

5. An orientation program for parents should be formulated.

6. Parents should be assigned specific duties. Some suggestions;
(a) Classroom attendants
(b) Hall duties
(c) Lavoratory duties
(d) Entrance to Schools
(e) Lunch time attendants
(f) Play-attendants
(g) Locker room attendants
(h) Cafeteria attendants
(i) Dismissal supervision

7. If volunteer participation is insufficient, consider the possibility of compulsory participation.

MRS. VIRGINIA J. HAYS
MRS. ANN V. YOUNG

It's NOT A Man's World

By BERNICE S. WHITE

Modern women are remarkably resilient—considering the conflicting expectations in women's roles and responsibilities, the traditional denigration and degradation of women, the fear of physical attack, and the backlash against the women's movement.

These conditions have taken their toll in mental illness, drug usage, alcoholism, utter frustration and a general feeling and undercurrent of unhappiness.

Many problems are usually ignored when they primarily affect "Women Only." Women have been taught not to complain, not to react aggressively, not to blame others, and above all, don't make waves that will rock the boat over any issue.

As a result of this, they frequently withdraw from their problems and accept their lot with a spirit of helplessness.

One category of forgotten, hopeless women is the female offender. They have been and are being sorely neglected, with most people considering their problems minor and deserving little, if any, attention.

Let me share with you a summary of hearings held on this issue that was reported in "Women Today," a publication of Today Publications and News Service.

The District of Columbia Commission on the Status of Women conducted hearings last November and received testimony that "while female offenders need special attention they are in fact being neglected, perhaps because their numbers are relatively small and the nature of their crimes has generally not been a violent threat to society."

MRS. WHITE

A broad-based group of witnesses testified including Congressmen, prison and detention home administrators, policemen, probation officers, social workers, ex-offenders, educators, and the general public.

The hearing officers learned that women offenders who are heads of households, the providers for their families, and mothers of dependent children have special problems that are often disregarded.

Women who are alcoholics or drug addicts often find that treatment facilities available to men are not available to them.

In addition, women and girl offenders often are excluded from the kinds of vocational rehabilitation available for male offenders.

The summary further reported that Mrs. Elizabeth D. Koontz, Director of the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor, termed female offenders as "the forgotten offenders" and that "while research on male prisoners is voluminous, on women, it is minimal."

She described the findings of a Women's Bureau survey of women prisoners at the two Federal Reformatories for Women at Alderson, W. Va., and Terminal Island, Calif.

The study showed that "most inmates are young, most come from city ghettos, a disproportionate number are from minority populations, their job patterns are sporadic, and the type of jobs they held usually required low skills and responsibilities and carries little status."

The study also indicated that about 80 per cent of the women surveyed wanted more education, about 85 per cent wanted job training and nine out of ten expected to work to support themselves and often others after their release from prison.

D. C. Congressman Walter Fauntroy, whose testimony opened the hearings, suggested that since there are a few female offenders as compared with the large numbers of male offenders, it should be possible to surmount their problems if only an effort is made.

Women interested in further information about "Women Today" should write to the publication at National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 20004.

Comments appearing on this page express the opinions of the writers. The AFRO-AMERICAN does not necessarily agree with all opinions expressed. — THE EDITORS

THE STATE OF THINGS
A Balancing Act

By VAL HYMES

Governor Marvin Mandel's State of the State message is part pomp and part politics.

His budget is, "precariously balanced," as he put it, not only between income and outgo, but between public demand for better services and public revulsion to a tax increase.

And his double whammy—a two-cent gasoline tax increase tied to a revolutionary transportation plan with grass roots appeal—backs up the suspicions that Mandel has posterity in mind and knows what the voters can swallow.

His refusal to increase the subsistence standards for welfare recipients (although the Caseload calls for a huge budget boost), for example, reflects public temper, just as does his $29 million request for the long-promised eight per cent pay raise for State employees.

In fact, the welfare grant level even drops because of inflation, and at the same time education gets short shrift as far as new programs are concerned in an age when public confidence in both areas is at its lowest ebb.

His transportation plan, a complex and progressive approach to the headaches plaguing local officials, motorists and environmentalists, was designed by Secretary Harry R. Hughes to help solve suburban, urban and rural problems at the same time.

It would accelerate the building of mass transit systems in the Baltimore and Washington areas, would pay three-quarters of the cost of local transit programs, study the airport situation across the State and continue the port building program.

This means, for example, that highways like Route 83 through Baltimore City, would no longer be a concern to the city, but a complete State responsibility.

Secondary roads, then, would be entitled to more money and more attention from local delegations and officials, causing happiness all around, except from the highway lobby and auto clubs, which are already fighting U.S. Sen. Charles McC. Mathias Jr. over the use of highway revenues for anything other than roads.

The other items in the Governor's 16-bill package are mostly controversial and wouldn't stand a chance in an earlier year.

Gun control; auto insurance reform with some no-fault, offtrack betting, farmland assessment and senatorial scholarship reform may be unpopular with many legislators, but Mandel has been reading his mail.

In spite of the furor over his handling of the reapportionment plan, the vetoed bills and his budget briefing, the Governor hasn't forgotten how to please the Maryland Senate.

Many of the biggest items in the budget, which helped force it over the $2 billion mark, are mandated by Federal law, like Medicaid and welfare, yet some legislators were angered by the comparatively small amount given to drug abuse programs, and other critical programs for the environment, community corrections or community mental health, for example.

But they cannot argue with his school lunches for 30,000 more kids, more State troopers, a kidney dialysis machine or juvenile group homes. And they certainly won't fight the capital budget requests for funds to finish the office building complexes in Annapolis and Baltimore that include legislative offices.

And so it goes. Just like his reapportionment plan, the budget has enough in it for enough special interests to prevent any widespread revolt.

Citizen Misunderstanding

Dear AFRO:

This is an open letter to the members of the First Apostolic Faith Church, 27 S. Caroline St., pastor: Bishop Winfield A. Showell, from Citizens For Washington Hill, Inc.

We regret the misunderstanding that occurred at the Citizens for Washington Hill meeting held on January 12.

At that time the business for the evening was to be the adoption of a land use plan that had been developed by the Citizens for Washington Hill in cooperation with the Department of Housing and Community Development.

This plan has been shown monthly for over a year at our regular meetings.

Changes and additions to the plan could have been made between monthly meetings by meeting with the executive committee to present those changes desired.

Another item of business was the area to be included for first year funding. We feel that your leaders should have explained the purpose of this meeting to you.

At no time was it to be a decision on an expansion for church facilities. The land use plan already includes the land requested by the church.

This is the land south of the church to Lombard, east to Dallas and the land occupied by the small houses immediately behind the church.

Since this was the only area requested of us, we are not aware of what the issue was.

If the church has other plans, your pastor has never communicated your desires for additional land to us.

We hope this helps you to better understand what happened, and we remain willing to discuss with your church representatives any additional plans you may have. (Mrs.) Betty Hyatt, president.

'72 legal holidays

Lincoln's Birthday—February 12, 1972
Wash. Birthday—February 21, 1972
Maryland Day—March 25, 1972
Good Friday—March 31, 1972
Memorial Day—May 29, 1972
Independence Day—July 4, 1972
Labor Day—September 4, 1972
Defender's Day—September 12, 1972
Columbus Day—October 9, 1972
Veteran's Day—October 23, 1972
Election Day—November 7, 1972
Thanksgiving Day—November 23, 1972
Christmas Day—December 25, 1972

AFRO LINE

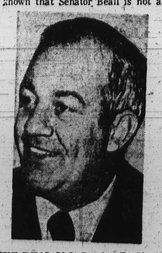
AFRO LINE is an AFRO community service to help you solve problems, whatever they may be. All you have to do is write a post-card to AFRO LINE, AFRO, 528 N. Eutaw St., P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203. In addition to stating the question you want answered, include your name, address and phone number. Then watch for the answer to the AFRO LINE each week because that is where the Action can be found.

QUESTION: I read with interest the article on Matthew Henson in the January 1st AFRO.

However, the picture which appeared was of the late Senator Beall Sr.

Enclosed for your files are photographs of Senator J. Glenn Beall Jr.—R. C. A.

ANSWER: The writer is exactly right. The AFRO regrets the error. Our AFRO Line editor should have known that Senator Beall is not as handsome as his late father, the revered Senator Beall Sr. We stand corrected and have corrected our library files.



THE REAL U.S. Senator J. Glenn Beall Jr.

QUESTION: I recently received my tax kit from the state for filing my 1971 returns. Will you please tell me when I should expect the same from the federal government and when is the last day I can file my taxes? — MRS. E. M.

ANSWER: Internal Revenue says you can look for your tax package any day now. If you don't receive one, you can pick up the necessary forms at the Federal building, located in the Hopkins Plaza or any bank. Deadline for filing is April 15.

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 meaningful 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.

A black owned and operated taxicab company.

A black owned and operated bank.

A black majority on Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners.