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

The May 16 Primary

In this coming Tuesday's Presidential Primary Election the AFRO ballot puts particular emphasis on the 7th Congressional District Democratic race.

Parren J. Mitchell, who is seeking his second term in Congress has earned the right to be returned to Congress.

Elected as the first black congressman from Maryland two years ago, he has an enviable record, not only as a Maryland congressman, but also as a strong supporter of the 13 member Congressional Black Caucus.

As we have said here repeatedly since last year when Congressman Mitchell announced he would seek reelection, we need in Congress a man of his experience, a man who knows how to speak out and isn't afraid to take a stand.

Already he is active on a number of committees and subcommittees and has supported legislation for the benefit of the poor, both black and white.

Mitchell is on the influential Banking and Currency Committee, the Permanent Select Committee of Small Business and the Consent Calendar Objectors Committee. His subcommittees include Domestic Finance, Small Business, International Trade, Government Procurement and Minority Small Business Enterprise.

We would ask those AFRO readers who are registered Democrats to do two things: First, pull down Lever 4-C for Parren J. Mitchell, then move to the right and pull down Lever 6-C for Archie D. Williams for Associate Judge of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City.

All voters in the city who are registered Democrat, regardless of their district, can pull this lever for Mr. Williams.

A noted civil rights lawyer, Mr. Williams seeks to break the sitting judge principle which denies black lawyers an opportunity to serve on the bench. He will be opposing an appointee of Governor Mandel who has favored his friends and members of his minority group. In the entire state only 8 of the 176 judges are black.

7th District Democratic Convention Delegates

The AFRO slate urges further that the Democratic voters in the 7th District pull the following levers for delegates to the Democratic National Convention. This means you vote a second time for Parren Mitchell.

12-C—Raymond B. Clarke
19-C—June C. Wing
12 D—Paul J. Cockrell
13-D—Risselle R. Fleisher
16-D—Parren J. Mitchell
10-E—Hildagardeis Boswell

7th District Republican Convention Delegates

Republicans in the 7th Congressional District should first pull down Lever 6-I for Archie D. Williams. Other Republican recommendations are:

4-G—Verdell Adair for Congress

For delegates to the Republican National Convention,

7-H—Archie M. Jones
9-I—Harry E. Smith

Third District

The only other recommendations the AFRO ballot makes are in the Third District.

Democrats should vote for reelection of Congressman Paul L. Sarbanes. He, too, is an able lawmaker, making his first bid for reelection. His lever is 4-D.

Here voters may also vote for Archie Williams for Supreme Bench, Lever 6-C.

Recommended delegates to the Democratic National Convention

17-D—Louise G. Murphy
9-D—Kathleen M. Carter

REPUBLICANS

Archie D. Williams for Supreme Bench, Lever 6-I.

The AFRO ballot which appears on page one of this edition and which is summarized here may be carried into the voting booth with you. Every vote counts.

AFRO ballot intentionally makes no recommendation for the Presidential Primary or for Congressional races in other areas.

AFRO editors, however, favor both Shirley A. Chisholm, 1-A and Hubert H. Humphrey, 1-B for PRESIDENT.

A Dangerous Game

There is a racial issue hanging over the Seventh Congressional District election that must be faced up to by responsible black and white voters.

A strange collection of individuals, politicians, newspapers and other organizations, are attempting to spread a most vicious racial theory among people of the Seventh District.

They suggest that black people, and Congressman Parren J. Mitchell in particular, are responsible for the racial divisions, polarization and lack of equality existing in Baltimore. They suggest that City Solicitor George L. Russell, who has not managed to do it thus far, could somehow magically bring black and white together.

It is a dangerous game to play.

A lot of snakes have crawled out of the grass and let the community see where they stand in this election.

While we have been especially disappointed at some blacks who apparently have sold themselves to the highest bidders, likewise we have been proud of the way thousands of white people have taken a stand based on the realities of racial progress, built on independence and sharing of power, that Congressman Mitchell stands for.

White labor leaders, church leaders, political leaders, anti-war people, conservationists, young people, liberals and others who don't think our racial problems are going to be solved by someone too involved with those who have delayed equalities to speak out forcefully on the issues, have joined in the community crusade to keep our first black congressman.

We chose Mitchell for two tough, costly congressional races and the black community knew everything about him then that we know now.

He has not been a disappointment.

We certainly don't want bosses or newspapers to try and ram down our throats any paternalistic theory that if they like one of us and we elect him they then will give us equality.

They haven't given us a darn thing while their choice served as city solicitor. Except things like higher taxes and a lot of non-city people in jobs we should be holding.

Any way you cut it, those whites who don't like Mitchell don't care too much for any black man who stands up and demands his freedom, here and now.

Remember how every time the NAACP would file a school desegregation or public accommodations suit the dailies would run to their black choices for quotes to the effect, "I don't know why they want to bother the white folks, you all done give us our own good schools."

Well, like Mitchell, most black people and a growing number of whites, understand time's out for that old hominy grits game.

We hope to make it clear May 16.

Warden Schoonfield

In his administration of Baltimore City Jail, Warden Hiram Schoonfield is strikingly deficient in control, communication, discipline and respect so that security and safety are 'at a critically low level.'

The words are from Mayor Schaefer's blue-ribbon committee. The citizens' panel found the April 5 riots appeared to have been precipitated by the warden's 'impulsive' action.

This report and the two federal ones which preceded it point clearly to the need for a new warden at City Jail.

We reiterate—Councilman Julian's suggestion that Police Col. William (Box) Harris replace Schoonfield until a new warden is named is a sensible one.

Failure of the city administration to relieve Warden Schoonfield now may prove to be a tragic mistake.

YOUR ONE VOTE COUNTS

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.

On Senator Welcome

Dear AFRO: It is regrettable that the AFRO should come under fire at a time when the black community is embroiled in one of the most potentially decisive political battles to date.

It is ironic that an attack should come from Senator Welcome, a representative of the black community who has benefitted greatly from the "existance of the AFRO-AMERICAN."

In the not-so-distant past, much of the exposure afforded to blacks in non-black newspapers was stereotyped coverage, reflecting a perpetual image of anti-social behavior, etc.

I am certain that many black people remember that the only reliable voice available to our community in those days was the AFRO . . . and the AFRO served us well, with unflinching courage and integrity.

The most important function of any newspaper is to express the views of those it professes to serve . . . to speak for and to the people.

A black newspaper has the additional responsibility of informing and educating black people regarding those specific issues which may be deemed crucial to the interests of the black community - issues which have historically been ignored or misrepresented in non-black publications.

An effective newspaper reflects the tempo of its' community - the AFRO does this.

A relevant newspaper is cognizant of the changing needs of a changing people in a changing society. The AFRO meets this challenge.

I am proud that we have this voice. . . this powerful, necessary implement of social change.

In my opinion, no provocation, real or imagined, will ever justify Senator Welcome's attempt to discredit the AFRO. The Senator knows full well the value and quality of the AFRO.

I especially regret the Senator's choice of media - publications which have traditionally been unsympathetic to the needs and aspirations of black people.

This incident serves to strengthen my conviction that we, the black community, are indeed . . . at the Rubicon.

BEVERLY BRUCE HAVARD

Lee-Welcome

Dear AFRO: Mrs. Lena K. Lee should be highly commended for taking a stand to write the open letter to Senator Welcome in the April 1st issue of the AFRO.

A message of this nature should have been publicly announced. I, like Mrs. Lee, am voting for Mr. P. J. Mitchell.

It is high time that the Senator be evicted from "Easy Street".

Nice work, Mrs. Lee. You rate an "A". — STEPHANIE BROWN

Hoover Funeral

Dear AFRO: As I observed the funeral for J. Edgar Hoover, I wondered how little we are being considered in our country; the U.S.A.

I tried to observe the part taken by us in this country of ours, in our election year.

First, none of us was in the choir.

Second, none of us helped carry the casket.

Third, no blacks followed directly behind the casket.

I noticed only two black cadets or soldiers in the large audience.

Doesn't this seem strange in this "Democratic" America ? —

(Mrs.) KATHERINE K. JACKSON

Vote Info Helps

Dear AFRO: Let me commend the AFRO for the excellent composite on voting information which appeared in your May 9th issue.

Obviously, the Election Board is most anxious to have accurate information available to all eligible voters and your "CLIP AND SAVE" suggestion of your article will help to make for a successful May 16th, Presidential Preference Primary Election. — JOHN C. DONOHUE, (President, Board of Supervisors of Elections)

Open Letter To W. D. S.

Dear Mayor William Donald Schaefer: You agree that to help give the city more employees should reside in the city. You can do something positive now.

You can insist that the Fire Board consider only persons who reside in the city for the vacant post as chief. This would eliminate the acting chief who lives in the county, wouldn't it?

This is most important since it is known he is not particularly sensitive to the needs of the total fire department.

A little About A LOT

You Have Rights On Election Day

By MADELINE W. MURPHY

MRS. MURPHY

On Aug. 3, 1971, a press release from the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights made no headlines in Baltimore newspapers, on TV or radio, in fact it was ignored. It read in part: "The Maryland State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights said today it found 'substantial merit' in the complaints by the Citizens' Committee for Voter Education against the policies of Baltimore's Board of Election Supervisors.

"The Citizens' Committee had charged the Board with racial discrimination by its refusal to implement its plan for mobile voter registration units manned by volunteers. The units were designed to reach the city's unregistered residents, many of whom are poor and black.

"In opposing the plan, the Board had pointed to the 'partisan nature' of the Citizens' Committee and the lack of control it would have over the registration centers.

"The Maryland State Advisory Committee said it regarded the Citizens' Committee proposal as 'an appropriate step to extend the franchise to many citizens who have been made to feel that their vote and their future matters little to society.'

". . . . The State Advisory Committee also announced its intentions to monitor the effectiveness of the Board of Election Supervisor's Plan."

Now in 1972, because of this same effort to block the registering of black and poor voters in Baltimore — the purge and the foot dragging of the Board of Supervisors of Elections — with a mammoth reduction in the number of black registered voters, some 68,000, our plight is even worse.

In addition, a recommendation by a committee chaired by Dr. Harry Bard, will soon be sent to Governor Marvin Mandel, suggesting use of shopping centers ONLY for registering voters, not community action centers.

After all the hard work of getting these centers in 1971, by the Citizens' Committee for Voter Education, this year, the Board of Supervisors of Elections intentionally confused inner city residents about where and when they could register.

Two days in one place, one week, then those places were closed and new ones were opened in different locations the next week.

Therefore, the group headed by Dr. Bard, felt that not enough people were being registered in community centers.

The self-fulfilling prophecy that if you confuse black people enough, they won't know where to register, won't go to register, therefore, not registering in large enough numbers, won't have any places within their neighborhoods to register, was calculated to frustrate the poor and the black in the inner city.

The sinister implication of this "Now you see it, Now you don't" shell game on the part of John C. Donohue, Chairman of the Elections Board, in collusion with the Bard Committee, is that the denial of the franchise of black people will continue to undercut our chances of contributing to the democratic process.

In plain English, it will make it increasingly impossible to elect our own independent candidates, even in substantially black districts like the 7th Congressional District.

The machine candidates will continue business as usual.

What can be done about this?

1. On May 16, 1972, black people in great numbers must vote and also act as poll watchers and challengers.

2. The U.S. Civil Rights Commission having investigated voting irregularities in 1970; having investigated the racial implications of registration in 1971 and found merit in the allegations of the Citizens' Committee, must be called in to monitor elections on May 16.

3. Every black citizen should get a copy of the Registration and Election Laws of Maryland and commit them to memory; use them and challenge all election day irregularities. (May be obtained from the Board of Elections.)

4. Call all citizens to carry on a massive registration campaign after the books reopen on May 30 and remain open through Oct. 10.

5. With the aid of the Civil Rights Commission free up registration procedures to allow daily registration, door-to-door registration within the inner city — under Art. 33, Section 3-24 of the Election Laws: "Precinct check of registered voters," this could be allowed.

5. An increased use of volunteers as deputized registrars from May 30 to Oct. 10, in an unsupervised operation under the sponsorship of the Citizens' Committee for Voter Education.

Voters must be sure that the Board is doing its job, especially because of this massive purge, by having on hand Temporary Certificates of Registration, in every polling place.

Article 33, Section 3-24, reads in part: "If at any election, it shall appear that the original registration form of any person presenting himself as a voter is not among the cards constituting the precinct register for use on election day, such person may apply to the board, or a majority of its members on forms to be provided by the board, for a certificate entitling him to cast his ballot in spite of the absence of such original registration."

If you've got to fight to cast your vote, using all the legal methods at your disposal, do it! Remember: 'Power concedes nothing.'

Slave Labor Camp

Dear AFRO: I am a prisoner in the Maryland penal system, and at present I am at the Central Laundry Correctional Camp in Sykesville, Md.

This camp is nothing more then an old-fashioned slave labor camp. We do all the laundry for the State Hospitals and institutions.

The men here are paid about 60 cents a day and are treated like children. I was sentenced in January of this year for two years for automanslaughter.

First, let me state that this camp is run by a white old-line staff of guards. The camp is 98 per cent black. Very few white prisoners are sent here. The prison system sends all the black prisoners to this camp that it can. The work is hard and very demanding.

If a man puts up any verbal complaints he is written up with false reports and sent back to the House of Correction.

We are sick and tired of being treated like children and dumb slaves. We want and demand respect and treatment as men and humans.

We want decent treatment, and the removal of those guards who are prejudiced and unfair.

All we want is to be treated like men and given a chance to serve our time like the white prisoners.

We can only take so much; and then we have no recourse but violence.—

X. Z. Y.

Young's Position

Dear AFRO: I just want a brief statement printed in our-your reader's response section to ask old, new friends, associates to please vote for the candidacy of Larry Young, Candidate to the Democratic National Convention.

Since March 6, Mr. Young is the only candidate who has issued position papers on things he wants to get before the Democratic Party.

In the AFRO alone, I have read Mr. Young's views on job discrimination, student rights, guaranteed income, environment, education, youth, quality of life for senior citizens, support for Congressman Mitchell.

I will vote for six delegates but Larry Young will be my first choice. He is definitely on his natural born job. — JULIA ANDERSON

Book Review

Dear AFRO: We enjoyed the book review by Louise Kerr Hines on 'Robert Coleman and the Association For the Handicapped,' an autobiography written by our sister and sister-in-law, Dorothy Coleman Lymas. (AFRO, April 22, 1972). — BERNIE AND KITTY HUGHES, (New York City)

To My Mother

Dear AFRO: I would like very much to have this poem to my mother published. She lives in Charlotte, N.C., and is an AFRO reader too:

This picture I am about to paint is
simply no other
The dearest person in all the world is
my loving mother
My mother is so gentle, her smile
beyond compare
The qualities my mother possesses,
are so very rare
Mother, yes I love you—Simple words
cannot tell
All the wonderful things you've done
for me
I think you're awfully swell
Mother you have that magic touch,
that means so much to me
I shall always respect and cherish
you throughout eternity
I love you mother dear.

(Mrs.) O'NEAL HERRON

(ED. NOTE: Sunday, May 14 is Mother's Day. Remember your own mother or friend's mother or a shut-in on this special day.)

War Bargain?

Dear AFRO: Returning from shopping for a dozen eggs, a dozen rolls, a dozen soft drinks, etc. — I heard radio report "a dozen U.S. Soldiers were killed in Vietnam." It reminded me of 'when human lives are cheap, war is a bargain."

B. J. SMALL

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 to expose corruption and condemn injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR.
December 25, 1929

NOW and THEN

Primary Day Amid Fears Of Real War

By G. JAMES FLEMING

DR. FLEMING

Writing about domestic and parochial politics seems an almost meaningless gesture, as this column is being prepared minutes after President Nixon's order to mine the ports of North Vietnam.

If this is not escalation of the Vietnam War, what could be? It is more than that. It could be the prelude to World War III.

If the USA is acting to uphold its "honor," how long will it be before another powerful nation, because of its "honor," too, not blast its way through the blockades or attack American "interests" in some other part of the world — the Mediterranean Sea or the Indian Ocean, for instance?

The new tactic in Vietnam is frightening and risky, especially when it is recalled that world conflagrations have been started in small, out-of-the-way places!

But, the more frightened we are about the nation's international adventures the more are we compelled to take our domestic politics seriously.

What we do here can, eventually, decide what happens in Vietnam and the near-Vietnams of the future.

So we dare not forget that Tuesday (May 16) is an important day in Maryland.

It is the day of the 1972 Primary Elections.

It is the day when the average voter has his say as to whom he wants as his candidate for President and for U.S. Representative.

On Tuesday there is also the opportunity to select judges for some of the courts.

The No. 1 obligation is to remember that Governor George Wallace, of Alabama, is on the ballot Tuesday, and that he is making an all-out effort to win the delegates from Maryland who will be attending the Democratic National Convention in Miami.

If Wallace wins Maryland, he will arrive at the Convention with solid bargaining power — to leave his mark on, and to influence, the selection of the Presidential candidate and the contents of the Democratic platform. And every reader knows what else he can expect from Wallace!

If he is not to "take" the state triumphantly on Tuesday, non-Wallace and anti-Wallace voters will have to turn out as if on a crusade. They must vote against Wallace!

This is a special appeal to those voters who are in the habit of "playing hooky" primary after primary.

This year must be different. They must vote.

This column has said a good deal in past weeks about the election of delegates to the Democratic National Convention. Republican readers remind us that it is also important to have black representation at the Republican National Convention.

Although Richard Nixon is the sure Republican candidate for President, the convention will also draft and adopt a platform. What that platform contains will be important to every man, woman and child for years to come.

In the Third Congressional District, for instance, there are only two blacks running as GOP delegates. They are Mrs. Elma Oglesby and Perry Farrington, both of Cherry Hill.

Republican voters in all districts should make it their special business to identify beforehand and to vote for those candidates who will best represent them at the Republican Convention.

Turning to the Congressional races in Greater Baltimore, readers have also been saying: "You have written about the Seventh District, what about the others?"

PAGE OPPOSITE

We have already pointed out that Representative Parren J. Mitchell (D-7th District) deserves being returned for a second term (Lever 4-C).

In the Second District, there is great temptation to make a bow in the direction of "Women's Lib," but Representative Clarence Long deserves being reelected (Lever 4-B)

Congressman Long is too vocal and active to please everybody all the time, but he certainly fights for his constituency and always seems to be ahead of everyone else in protecting the interests of the Baltimore area, especially in keeping jobs here.

In the Third Congressional District (largest in the city), the "best bet" is to keep the incumbent, Paul S. Sarbanes and to return him for a second term (Lever 4-D).

Representative Sarbanes was first elected two years ago by a constructive, liberal coalition. He has had a good batting average during his first term.

Some good news from Texas: Attorney Barbara Jordan, of Houston, on Saturday defeated three men for the Democratic nomination for Congress. Miss Jordan, who spoke at Morgan State College last year, will almost surely become the first black woman to be elected to Congress from Texas. Her district is 50 per cent black, 97 per cent Democratic.

EDITOR'S NOTE ' Dr. Fleming will serve as a political analyst, interpreting the primary returns, Tuesday night on WMAR-TV (Ch. 2).

IF YOU Ask ME

By BETTYE MOSS

MRS. MOSS

Reminder: Sunday, May 14, is Mother's Day. If your own mother is living, remember her with something special.

If you're not so fortunate to have your own mother, take time to be especially kind to somebody else's mother or a lonely shut-in.

Happy she's home from the hospital for Mother's Day is Mrs. Zorah Elickson (Elliot Funeral Home). She had been in University Hospital.

Edward Young, vice principal of Sudbrook High out in Baltimore County, is in Hopkins Hospital (Halsted 313).

He sustained a slipped disc while exercising, will be in traction for a while.

This columnist's sister, Mrs. Vashti Matthews, is still in Mercy Hospital undergoing tests. (Room 923). She'll be in another week.

Also hospitalized: Miss Josephine Lansey, the teacher. She had surgery at Provident.

More sick: Mrs. Earl Hagan (Estelle), the teacher, had emergency surgery. So did Miss Vivian Cord, the area director.

S. Orrin Nixon, the longtime (46 years), postal worker, had surgery last Wednesday at Sinai Hospital, is doing fine. He's in Room 244 B.

Down in Durham, N.C., last week, N. C. Mutual exec. Rufus Hackett, had surgery. He's a Baltimorean.

His sister, Mrs. Pauline (Dee Dee) Pullen went down, returned this week to report he is recuperating at home.

Get well cards will reach him if addressed to 1006 Willodale Dr., Durham, N.C., 27707.

Hospital Note: If you visit at Mercy Hospital which is in the courthouse and old post office area, you park your car in a nearby parking lot and have your parking ticket stamped as you leave the hospital. . .but don't get fooled.

The stamped ticket entitles you to pay 65 cents an hour for the privilege of parking on the nearby public lot.

If you don't get your ticket stamped, the charge is 65 cents for the first half hour. Certainly can be expensive visiting the sick.

Flower note: George Taylor, the talented proprietor of Taylor's House of Flowers, is the owner of that new florist shop in the new Federal Building.

It's on the ground floor near the cafeteria, is open from 9:30 to 4:30 daily.

Add to people doing kind things for others: Those of our fellow citizens who speak at schools and colleges without pay, and bring practical experience to the classroom.

Most recently at Morgan State College, Mrs. Maude Smith Harvey, executive assistant to the director of the Department of Social Services, made her seventeenth annual visit to lecture to the course in Government and Social Welfare;

And, Jerome Todd, one of the top supervisors in the State Department of Juvenile Services, spoke to the same class for the tenth year.

For about the twelfth time City Councilwoman Victorine Adams lectured to the course in "American Politics and Pressure Groups."

Sidney Hollander Jr., who might be called "the George Gallup of Baltimore," told of the intricacels of public opinion polling before the graduate class in politics. This was his fifth year.

Tea note: The Douglass High School February Class of 1935 is having a musicdl tea on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, at Madison Ave. YWCA, 3 to 6 p.m. Subscription $2.00. Tickets may be purchased from Ellen House, chairman WI. 7-5827, Elizabeth Carter, Co-Chairman 655-7895, Albert Griffin, President, 728-5592.

More people being kind to others: A Sunday ago a beautiful testimonial dinner was given by members of Sampson Brooks Temple of Elks in honor of their financial secretary, Mrs. Florence Lyles.

She was presented with a bronze plaque for 35 years of outstanding service and loads of gifts from lodges, temples and friends.

The affair was attended by over 150 guests.

Mrs. Amy Warden, president of the Tri-State Elks was guest speaker. Mrs. Pearl Brown, daughter ruler of Great Southern Temple, presented the plaque from the organization.

Mrs. Lena Wiggins is the daughter ruler.

Cuff note: Among the 42 counselors from the Maryland-Washington area who were guests of the United States Army at West Point, recently, were Robert W. Griner and Robert White of Douglass Senior High.

The visit to West Point provided the counselors with an opportunity to observe the making of an officer so that they might better counsel their students who are interested in joining the Academy.

Mrs. John Burgess of Boston and D.C., was in town over the weekend visiting her cousin, Miss Myrtle Burgess, who remains ill, and another cousin, Elmer Burgess, of Morgan Park.

Budget Cuts

Dear AFRO: As parents of children in the Baltimore public schools, we wish to go on record as opposing the City council's possible elimination of the Physical Education Program, fearing that this act would tend to weaken the entire Educational Structure.

We feel that to weaken our Educational Program, is to weaken our youth, and to weaken our youth, is to weaken our nation. This, we cannot afford to do.

Even our city fathers must realize that this is too great a price to pay in order that they adjust a "mere" budget. — (Mrs.) LORETTA L. TAZWELL

The Chips Are Down

Dear AFRO: Four days before the Primary Election it is well to take a hard and critical look at Mr. Russell, the opponent of Mr. Mitchell in the 7th Congressional District.

We know he has been supplied with money by rich whites and indeed if elected, will be controlled by them.

Those of us who know Mr. Russell realize that here is a man:

1. Who is brilliant with an outstanding mind.

2. Who is competent and has demonstrated ability which can command the respect of all men.

3. Who because of his achievements, does not have to knuckle down to anyone.

4. Who is capable of earning a good living for himself and his family.

5. Who could have been a real leader in the black community and one in whom it could have been justly proud.

6. Who can reach great heights no matter the field or competition.

Yet, with all these personal attributes, this man chose to split the black community using the money leverage of the White Power Structure to do this.

The question is "Why? Why? Why?"

If black men of his stature can be manipulated, what can be expected of the ordinary black man to temptation when race and principle are at stake?

What can be expected from the black Masses in their hour of trial, if, "one who has arrived" can't be trusted?

Again, we must ask, Why? Why? Why?

For many years I have been proud of the achievements and accomplishments by Mr. Russell. I was proud of the image he could project as a black man due to his ability no matter the circumstance or the situation.

I was proud of his record as an attorney, a judge, city solicitor and proud to support him in his bid for mayor for I was convinced that he would make a good one.

Indeed, I was proud to think of him as a friend on the move, blazing trails for other talented blacks to follow.

It is for these reasons that I am very disappointed with Mr. Russell, not because he is running for office, but for how he is running.

I, too, must ask, Why? Why? Why?

The chips are down and the die is cast on the future role blacks will play in the mainstream of American life, and it will be determined by the way we as a people respond and vote on May 16th.

We must not betray the future of our children and have them enslaved to those who wish to control their destiny.

We must move forward with Parren J. Mitchell as men and not move backward as "pawns" with Mr. Russell.

As for me, I select progress for myself, for my children, and for generations of blacks still unborn. I am tired of being misused and misrepresented by blacks who "dance like puppets on a string" to tune of white bossism and want better than this for our coming generation.

I have and will continue to support Parren J. Mitchell as he strives to make our voices heard and our needs known in government and to the establishment. How about you? —

ISAIAH E. WHITE

The AFRO Stands For

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

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.

A Column Of CHOICE

Inconsistency In Our Regard For Human Life

By MARION BANFIELD

MRS. BANFIELD

There is a frightening inconsistency in our regard for human life. We are engaged in a national debate about life and death.

There are those of us who feel that an abortion in a hospital is a valid way to prevent the birth of an unwanted childm

Others of us believe this to be a heinous act. What colors our emotions with abortion is that there is resentment against assumed sexual pleasure. One is to pay a price, or be punished for such pleasure.

Strangely enough, some who support a woman's right to an abortion are vehemently against the taking of life through war.

Some of the loudest critics of abortion wave the flag of patriotism and eloquently support efforts to destroy human life, just as long as it is "the enemy."

Churches which declare legal abortion a sin approach the murderous atrocities of war with rationalizations dictated by the men who plan war strategies with the finesse of a chess game.

We are so unthinking that our emotions of love and hate are turned on by politicians as easily as cold water faucets.

When the press and television give signals to love, we meekly respond. When adjectives stir to hate specific populations, we are not difficult to train.

Now that Mr. Nixon has been angered by the persistent little brown people of North Vietnam whom the white fighters have not conquered, be they English, French or Americans, we are going to face some choices which we have been avoiding.

We can now choose to support the white arrogance which in international crises always expects the darker races to succumb.

We can now choose to face up to the possibility of devastation of human life because some white men in business suits, shirts and ties have decided that other men who dress, and think differently dare to choose to govern their own actions contrary to the wishes of the European-American economic establishments.

We shall have a chance to hear the response of the great protectors of unborn infants rationalize the attack on grown men, grown women, boys and girls and crying infants.

The churches will now try to lead in the choice of life. Our young people in educational institutions will choose their sides for life.

Secondary school teachers had better get beyond Christopher Columbus and reach some human value systems. Let us be conscious of what adjectives and what rationalizations for destruction of human life we choose.

We had better get some realistic values about human life and make sure our government officials know about them.

Afro Lines

QUESTION: I live in a neighborhood which was at one time considered the "colored man's paradise". Wish you could see it now.

Street lights are towering over, trees are dying and the alleys and gutters are in constant need of cleaning. I have contacted the proper city agencies and they come maybe once and start on the job but never come back. Please tell me what I can do about this situation. — W.T.

ANSWER: A group of concerned residents in the Liberty Heights - Wabash Ave. area met recently at Mt. Zion Baptist Church and formed a neighborhood group called "Safe Living on Wabash" (SLOW).

Headed by Mrs. Estelle Flowers, the group demanded that the Department of Transit and Traffic install additional traffic controls in and approaching the curve at the 3500 and 3600 blocks of Wabash Ave.

With the unselfish support of group and community workers, their demands were met and on April 17 Paul L. Burns, acting assistant commissioner Plans and Surveys notified Mrs. Flowers that the installations were being made and a complete survey of the area would be taken in the near future.

This is just another example of what can be done to correct problems when people are not afraid to speak out and stick together.

Dope Traffic

Dear AFRO: I have been vexed since I have heard from several sources that the F.B.I. has a very good ear on against the number writers and number players, at the present times, in Baltimore county and Baltimore City.

I am not saying that the number business is right or should be, but I do want to know, why isn't the time, money, and interests at the present time, is not put on the DOPE traffic?

The numbers do not cause death and mess up a human being like the DOPE does. I was taught, "Time and place for everything." and "first things are first." Why not make the numbers, the second war in Baltimore?

I think that the city, state and federal governments, are really afraid to fight the DOPE TRAFFIC, RIGHT, and TOO HARD. Our political, so-called, friends, just talk, talk, and talk, about the DOPE TRAFFIC. It should be an honest issue in the coming elections.

I think also, that many go on DOPE, AND SELL dope, because they are too poor and too disgusted, because they can't get enough money for a decency life. It might have been a blessing if many could have hit a number, and had more time to duck the evils of DOPE. Rev. G. S. MCGUIRE

Brutality At Hagerstown

Dear AFRO: Young, black, intelligent, and constructive, is about the best way to describe many of the young black brothers presently being imprisoned at the Md. Correctional Institution in Hagerstown.

Hagerstown is a city about 72 miles from Baltimore and is the second largest city in Maryland. Hagerstown residents seemed to have been blessed with two correctional facilities and one work release center, thus keeping the unemployment rate in a predominantly all-white city down to a fraction.

Almost 75 per cent of the inmates at these correctional facilities are from Baltimore city, and rarely are there any offenders from Hagerstown imprisoned in these 3 state correctional institutions.

Maybe some of our law-abiding, taxpaying citizens can tell us why only three blacks are employed at these institutions when the correctional staff consists of more than 500 employees.

Maybe those same citizens can tell me why 80 per cent of a 2,500 inmate populace are black, and why almost 70 per cent of them keep coming back.

Md. Correctional Institution was built close to 40 years ago (Ed. Note: Est. 1931), and during a time when racial hostilities and brutality of blacks were at their worst.

During earlier times, this prison was separated into two parts, a white side and a black side.

During that time many felt that blacks had no business showering, watching movies or even eating with whites, even though each as an individual had broken a law.

Administrators as well as high ranking correctional officers took it upon themselves to orientate and condone a brutal way of discipline and a highly unethical method of rehabilitating blacks.

I must honestly say that this way of dealing with young offenders has still to this day not ceased and continues to remain with us just as the same Administrators and their policies remain.

All things have a limit. When will actions begin to take the place of words? When will someone put a stop to the brutality, the inadequate rehabilitation programs and the neglect we experience day after day in these dungeons? When will people care about prisons?

Do you care? Will you help? WHEN? If used, I must ask that my name be removed — X. Y.

78 YEARS AGO—"The interests of the Afro-American population of Baltimore are identical and any faction of the race which fosters strife to gratify its own selfish ambition should be classed with the enemy." The AFRO-AMERICAN, April, 1893