POLITICAL SCIENTIST'S VIEWS

1972 Dem Convention memorable—Dr. Fleming

Editor's Note: Following is the reset column by Dr. G. James Fleming which was mixed up in our last pographical transpositions and gladly reprint the column in its proper forat).

By G. JAMES FLEMING

I was present at the 1948 Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia, when Hubert H. Humphrey, almost single-handedly, forced an unprecedented, cutting, civil rights plank into the platform.

Because of Humphrey's insistence, Alabama and other southern states took a "walk" out of the convention and refused to support Harry Truman, the Democratic Presidential candidate.

Humphrey was tremendous in those years. He was not "just a politician."

His heart was in the right place, and he followed fearlessly the dictates of his heart — first as the little known mayor of Minneapolis and later as a member of the Congress.

Humphrey was also a trail-blazer, an innovator. He saw, before many others, the challenge of the masses to their government; he spoke early for governmental aid to the cities; he was a forerunner in the new politics.

* * *

All these qualities were reflected, not only at the 1948 convention, but also in his many contributions to Americans for Democratic Action, and in his total quality of life.

It may be, indeed, that this very kind of quality has been responsible for Humphrey's missing the Presidency in three attempts.

Or, it may be that he suffers from a "blind spot which prevents him from looking out for himself as zealously as he has looked out for others.

All these thoughts haunted me as, very sadly, via TV from Miami, I saw Humphrey withdraw from the race for nomination, just as in 1960 he had withdrawn after the West Virginia primary.

But, he is still in the Senate, and he still has many years of light and leadership ahead of him. And history cannot ignore him.

* * *

Viewing the number of "also-rans at the Democratic National Convention, leads one to recall the many candidates down the years, who have aimed at the Presidency but failed to make it.

Some of these have been frivilous entries, but most have been no better or worse than the men who have become Presidents.

Some have been "ahead of their time;" some have been "too good" for the voters; still others were from the wrong section of the country; most lost out because there is only room for one President at a time.

Without delving too far back into history, we find among the "also rans" Adlai Stevenson and Wendell Willkie, both generally accepted as topmost among recent candidates.

Then, too, there were aspirants such as William Jennings Bryan, Estes Kefauver, Alfred E. Smith, Thomas E. Dewey, Robert A. Taft, and Norman Thomas.

This year's non-winners lengthen the list.

Perhaps in a paraphrase from Milton, it may be said that "They also serve who aim for the Presidency but miss their goal.

* * *

We feel fortunate that we sat up last Friday night long enough to hear the acceptance speech of George McGovern, Democratic Presidential aspirant.

Although he spoke between 3 and 3:30 a.m., his message came through more clearly and incisively than the writer had ever experienced him before.

It was not only what he said, but how he said it — how convincing he was, how committed he seemed.

What he expounded, he really seemed to believe. He makes a definite impact, even if one cannot agree with every detail of his agenda.

Last week we also found more data as to the McGovern voting record in the Congress. He need not be ashamed of this record. Even ADA gave him a score of 94, following the last congressional session.

* * *

The vice-presidential aspirant, U.S. Senator Thomas F. Eagleton, comes through immediately, and his selection must be considered a plus for the judgment of McGovern. Eagleton is strong where McGovern is weak.

He is from a big, industrial city, St. Louis, where McGovern is from rural, Mitchell, South Dakota.

He is from the political important Roman Catholic communion, while McGovern is a Methodist; he has long, close civic and political association with blacks, while McGovern has had much less (St. Louis population is 45 per cent black).

Eagletons voting record is also outstanding.

In addition, he has been a fighter for the rights of the residents of the District of Columbia, in his position as chairman of the Senate's District Committee.

The nation had the opportunity to know Yvonne Braithwaite Burke, black, beautiful and efficient, as she presided over several sections of the Miami convention, in her role as the permanent vice-chairman of the convention. Never before had a woman so served!

Mrs. Burke, a 39-year-old lawyer who looks like 22, is also a candidate for Congress from Los Angeles (We'll be surprised if she does not make it).

There will be at least three black women in the next session of the House of Representatives.

Of the 450 black delegates, several nominated candidates or seconded nominations, or announced the vote of their delegations.

A key person was Mayor Kenneth Gibson of Newark, New Jersey, chairman of the platform-drafting committee, who is credited with an A-1 job.

Two other mayors present were Charles Evers, of Fayette, Miss., and Howard Lee, of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. There might have been others.

The smartest thing in Miami happened the day after the convention closed, at the first meeting of the new National Committee. It resulted in a black member, Basil Patterson, New York state senator and lawyer, being elected vice-chairman of the powerful committee.

Although the committee had elected a white woman chairman — the first woman, it was about to by-pass blacks and elect a white vice-chairman, also.

It was then that Mayor Evers, bittingly, reminded one and all of the "new politics."

Many faces became red, Evers nominated Patterson, and he was elected by acclamation, the first black in such a topmost position in the Democratic National Committee.

The State of Things

By VAL HYMES

now that Maryland has had its own Attica at not one but three prisons, and not only at State institutions but a county jail, something, they say, is bound to happen.

Maybe they will tear down the 160 — year old Penitentiary and the 99 year-old House of House of Corrections, the reformers hope, or maybe they will stop the judges, congressmen and do-gooders from mollycoddling the criminals," as many disgusted guards, legislators and taxpayers say.

If determination could do it, Governor Marvin Mandel would solve the prison problems overnight. Instead, he attacks the lack of a program of action while there has been one right under his nose since he took office.

While Mandel and Secretary Robert Lally take a hard line — guaranteed to please the public — the problems have been compounded.

While it is obviously easier to control criminals, than subsidizing and serving the needs of the people."

Dr. Bertram S. Brown, Director of NIMH, has responded to the Nader group's attacks, and his response admits that NIMH cooperated in drawing up the report, as well as agreeing that many of the charges are true.

"We anticipate welcoming some recommendations and rejecting others . . . I was pleased that the majority of concerns and criticisms voiced in the report were actually made by NIMH staff members . . . We have been aware of these issues and have worked hard to deal with them to make our program more effective . . . The Nader Report will help that process."

A future phase of the report is expected to comment on Maryland's community mental health centers, about 25 in number.

The Maryland locations are:

In the city: Inner City at South St., Provident Hospital, Baltimore City Hospital, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Sinai and North Central Hospitals;

In Baltimore County, centers at Dundalk, Turner's Station, Sparrow's Point, Essex, Southwestern, Pikesville, Randallstown, Southeastern, and Reisterstown.

Other Baltimore County locations are at Towson, Middle River, the 14th district at Fullerton and Cockeysville.

Several other counties have centers, also: at Cheverly, Prince Georges, at Frederick in Frederick County, at Bel Air in Harford, at Hagerstown (Washington County), Dorchester's Cambridge area, and at Salisbury in Wicomico County.

Some of these centers are called "centers," and others "clinics," the spokesman from the state Department of Health and Mental Hygiene stated.

Dr. Neil Solomon, Md. Secretary of the department, declined to make a statement on the report to the AFRO. A spokesman said it had not yet reached his office.

—Mental Health

(Continued from Page D-36)

care."

The paper blasts the centers program for excluding . . . persons who present the most-troublesome cases — notably, drug addicts, alcoholics, old people, children, ethnic and racial minority groups, and the poor in general."

Other charges against the centers are that they're continuing the "two class system of care," are not encouraging citizen involvement and are not being held accountable for their actions and goofs by NIMH.

Drug abuse, announces the lengthy statement, is the number one problem in the District's mental health mess, stating that the methadone approach to curing heroin addiction may well be a failure.

" many addicts on methadone continue to use heroin . . ."

Furthermore, methadone is being put on the District's black community as a "control device."

"Narcotizing a large segment of the population . . . has been the method of controlling the people that you would not want in any way to wreak havoc upon the rest of society.

"It was done in India . . . where it was necessary to control segments of people."

Nader charges the outcome of this policy is to "control . . . the masses of young black people rather

AUGUST 1

"Monterey Pop," film at the Pratt Library's Pimlico Branch, 6:30 p.m.

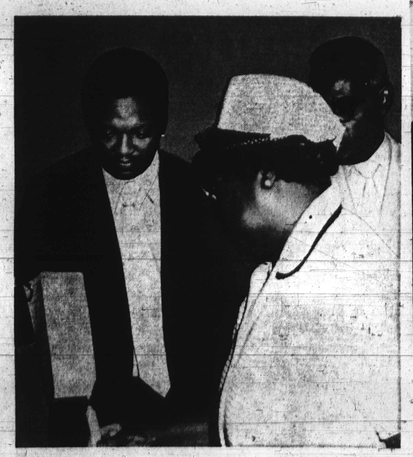
AUGUST 2

"Aretha Franklin, Soul Singer" and "Body and Soul," films at the Pratt Library's Hollins-Payson Branch, 6:30 p.m.

AUGUST 2

"The Big Con" and "Getting a Job Is a Job," films at the Pratt Library's Kirk Avenue Library Center, 6:30 p.m.

837-9313 is BAN Line, a telephone number for concerned citizens to call in narcotics information.



MORTGAGE BURNING — Greater St. John Baptist Church recently had mortgage burning services. The Rev. Joseph L. Hinton, pastor of the church is shown with Mrs. Estelle Oliver, mother of the church, as she is lighting one page. Mrs. Oliver is president of the Missionary Society and a member of the Senior Choir.

GUEST SPEAKER— The Rev. Levin B. West, pastor of Grace Reformed Church in New Jersey, will be the guest speaker on Sunday at Mount Ararat Baptist Church, 11 a.m., Longwood and Gwynns Falls Parkway. The Rev. Samuel Redd is pastor of Mount Ararat.

MAIL ORDER

Lonely? Write the American Club. Box 737 Gary Ind. 46401.

Mrs. Ida Campbell, 95, buried Wednesday

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Ida Campbell, on Wednesday at John Wesley United Methodist Church.

Born in Baltimore, Mrs. Campbell was 95 and lived in the 1300 block of W. Lanvale St.

Before moving on Lanvale St., she had lived in the 300 block of Carey St., for over 33 years.

Mrs. Campbell was a lifetime member of John Wesley United Methodist Church where she participated in the Golden Cross Society, and the Women's Christian Service.

Among other organizations that she was a member of were the Emmanuel Circle of Eastern Star Eureka Chapter, Pass Most Ancient Matron Zerrabel Court, Knights of Pythias and the Elks.

She was one of the first black license practical nurses in Baltimore. For 25 years, she was employed at the N. M. Carroll Aged Home on Carrollton Ave.

She is survived by four daughters, Mesdames Cornelia Besses, Beatrice King, Virginia Campbell, and Frances Collette; 24 grandchildren; 78 great-grandchildren and 16 great-great-grandchildren.

She is buried in Mt. Auburn Cemetery.

out-of-the "big houses" now that it has starated.

The Washington-Frederick Counties camp has 72 beds; there are 60 spaces in the Eastern Shore, Southern Maryland camp and Baltimore pre-release center and 460 at the main Jessups camp.

Federal funds are available for the three model centers — if a community can be found that will accept them. Governor Mandel

rapped prisoner 'reformers'" who want to do something about the big houses, but don't want a facility "in their area — paying lip service to real reform."

For nearly two years, corrections and juvenile officials have failed to find a location for a juvenile facility and a smaller maximum security institution.

And legislation seems an even more dim possibility in the wake of the rioting without strong Mandel support after the General Assembly's reaction to former Commissioner Joseph Cannon's futile efforts to convince them his programs could work.

* * *

Governor Mandel says there is "no well-defined program" for the new trend toward community corrections. The Rasin Committee and Task Force could disagree. Instead, they will continue to wait, if necessary, for the right political climate.

At the very least, the prison populations of more than a thousand men now in three facilities would have been cut down to smaller, easier to handle groups, withhard core troublemakers in separate, tight facilities with special programs.

The shocking thing about the activities and contraband discovered in the Penitentiary is not that it occurred, but that corrections officials did not have control of the programs that brought them inside in the guise of rehabilitation.

Every study made in the last decade, beginning in Maryland under Governor J. Millard Tawes, shows that a modern program injected into an ancient institution is guaranteed to fail.

And national statistics show that only 20-30 per cent of all inmates require maximum security.

A recent Baltimore Grand Jury report, in fa t, revealed that 65 per cent of those jailed in the City jail were either acquitted or released on probation or for other reasons.

* * *

The trouble in the Prince George's County Jail, furthermore, resulted partly because programs were cut for untried — and therefore still innocent — inmates because of security for Arthur Bremer, charged with shooting Governor Wallace.

Every local jail has a potential for rioting, escapes, destruction, hostagetaking, but they also have the potential to rehabilitate and re-integrate the inmate into the community in half the time at half the cost, says Kent W. Mason, chairman of the Community Corrections Task Force. He is asking for enabling legislation for three model centers in Baltimore, Prince Georges and don the Shore, but none for antique local jails.

That plan has been scrapped for now, as was another to use the State's five correctional camps to start off the programs. Those camps are having success with their training and educational programs and Commissioner James Jordan does not want to interrupt the flow of inmates

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AFRO Camera at Junior High Exercise

HONOR STUDENTS at Calverton Junior High included Ronald Chambers, second from left; Adrian Hubbard, back, and Sandra Johnson, right. Mrs. Linda Bradley, left, was the class advisor.

IN WHITE CARNATIONS — Terri Murphy, left, Portia Dildy and Renee Hardly were the top ranking graduates at Lemmel Junior High.

All AFRO staff photos by
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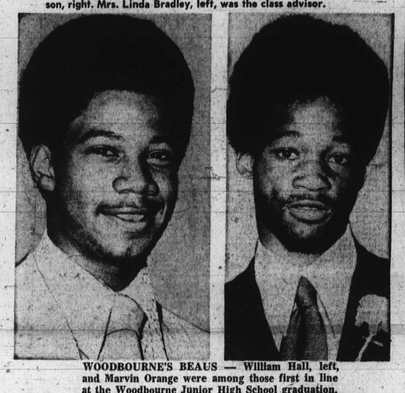
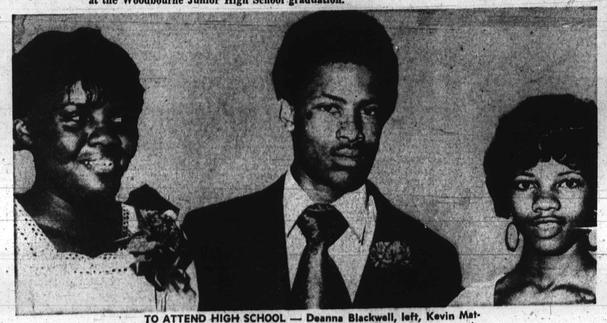


WOODBOURNE'S BEAUS — William Hall, left, and Marvin Orange were among those first in line at the Woodbourne Junior High School graduation.

TOPS IN CLASS — Mary Allen and Joan Weldon graduated at the top of the class from Fairmount Hill Junior High.

HONOR STUDENTS at Hamilton are Laura Morton, left, and Sharon Starchak.



TO ATTEND HIGH SCHOOL — Deanna Blackwell, left, Kevin Matthews and Phyllis Taylor were among those who participated in the closing exercises at Diggs-Johnson Jr. High School.

A SERIOUS but happy moment came for these Calverton grads. From left are Crystal Blue, honor student, Carolyn Alexander, Sheila Thomas, Cathy

TOP RANKING GRADS at Gwynns Falls Park Jr. High were Robert Burley and Portia Stokes.

PROMOTED — Wayne Thompson Salud and Marlene Cornish said so long to Gwynns Falls Park Jr. High.

TO HIGH SCHOOL are Ronny Myers, left, and Kevin Matthews of Claverton Junior High.