NOW IN ITS 80th YEAR

Founded Aug. 13, 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1840-1922. Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO-AMERICAN Co. of Baltimore City Inc.

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. — CARL MURPHY, Editor-Publisher 1889-1967.

Plenty Of Things To Do

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.

Unfair Judgment

Dear AFRO:

The citizens of the black community share a deep sadness concerning the tragic murder of the Dean sisters. We know the heartbreak of losing loved ones in the wave of violence which threatens to engulf us all.

We extend our sympathy to the family and to the community in which they live. We also share an ardent desire to see that those who have committed this atrocity are brought to justice.

However, in recent weeks, whenever black people refer to justice in relation to criminals or alleged criminals, we have been accused of showing more concern for the criminal elements in our society than for the victims.

This is an unfair judgment and a ludicrous charge in light of the undeniable fact that we blacks are most often victimized by lawlessness, on every level.

We realize that "law and order" has been radically politicized by those who find it expedient to exploit crime as a racial issue rather than as the universal problem it is.

Through this racial exploitation of crime, justice is permitted to cloak herself in a white sheet of aloofness . . . apart from common folk.

Therefore, we must be convinced that justice is truly served . . . we cannot take it for granted.

Not when the guilt of defendants is a foregone conclusion.

Not when defendants are tried and found guilty by the press.

Not when the Public Defenders' Office is unwilling or unable to provide black lawyers as requested by a defendant.

Not when a judge states that the recent Supreme Court ruling to abolish capital punishment could be revoked in this case . . . a clear implication of predetermined guilt minus trial.

This time, we dare not allow ourselves to be lulled to sleep by those who sing a lullaby of justice while tip-toeing behind our slumbering backs . . . to tilt the scales.

BEVERLY BRUCE HAVARD

Citizens Alert

Dear AFRO:

Congratulations on your 80th birthday and congratulations on your new Citizens Alert Program. This program, like your eighty-year record as you stated in the editorial, attests to your dedication and interest in the people you serve.

Best wishes for eighty years more of faithful and fruitful service.

JUNE THORNE GARRETT

(ED's NOTE: As we said editorially last week, the new AFRO department, Citizens Alert, will welcome complaints from readers who find real estate advertisements placed in this newspaper are misleading. The new department was suggested by an AFRO readers who discovered an apartment for rent in one of our columns was rat-infested and unfit for human occupancy. Call Citizens Alert, AFRO, 728-8600).

Rev. Dodson

Dear AFRO: If you did not hear the Rev. Vernon Dobson's nightly comment at 11 on T.V. do get a copy. It was beautifully done and noteworthy.

It was totally about the outstanding job of Baltimore's black press, the AFRO-AMERICAN.

Among the many things he said favorably about the AFRO were:

The AFRO speaks of the little people who are forgotten and the paper and publishers should be commended for its news coverage — MRS. B. L. WRIGHT.

More Congratulations

Dear AFRO: After eight decades of service, it would be amiss for anyone to claim that the newspaper has become "addled" with age.

Rather, over the eighty-year span of its existence, the AFRO-AMERICAN has become increasingly vibrant as a sounding board for community opinion and action.

Notable, also, is the inescapable fact that the AFRO has not been interred in the "graveyard" of dead news periodicals which addressed themselves primarily to the black reader.

Instead, the newspaper progressed steadily from simply a local organ for the Baltimore populace to a national voice, with regional editions, for an entire country.

Naturally, too, the names of the Murphy 'clan" became a hall mark for excellence in journalism as well as a household word for those who believe in justice for the common men.

To those living in Baltimore, an early sign of the AFRO-AMERICAN zeal for community improvement came to light with initiation of the annual clean block campaign. Following this, have come drives for voter registration and similar key movements for the uplift of Baltimore's black citizens.

On behalf of the whole Coppin State College community and myself I wish for you to enjoy eighty more years of healthy existence.

CALVIN W. BURNETT
President
Coppin State College

Hyman Pressman

Dear AFRO:

Hyman Pressman says that race played no part in his recent attacks on Judge William H. Murphy Sr. Black people, however, should take this with a grain of salt.

A few months ago, a daily paper did a series on the decisions rendered by some judges, one in particular, in cases involving the numbers racket.

It was pointed out that this one judge, who is white, frequently changed what had been rendered as "guilty" verdicts in open court to "probation before verdict" and even "not guilty" once he was back in his chambers.

None of Judge Murphy's actions could possibly be conceived to be as questionable as those of the aforementioned white judge and yet I don't recall any hue and cry coming from Mr. Pressman for his removal from the bench.

WILLIAM BARRETT

Dr. Abernathy:

Dear AFRO:

Greetings and best wishes to the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN — a champion of the right of black and poor people and a pioneer in the field of journalism — on its 80th birthday.

May you continue to aid the cause of the downtrodden and the less fortunate and help to create the climate for justice and equality for all Americans.

RALPH DAVID ABERNATHY
(President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference).

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, 1920

Vacation-Time Hints

This is the height of the summer vacation season.

Post cards, letters, telephone calls from far away places let us know that some of our neighbors are enjoying a restful time away from home.

While many of us are able to get away to the seashore, the mountains or to a foreign land, the majority of us are not.

Mortgage payments, high cost of food, clothes and other necessities, plus unemployment, prevent leisure time travel which costs money.

It is good to travel if one can afford it, but a stay at home can be just as healthy and relaxing.

If you can't take the scenic drive through the United States or a plane trip across the nation or abroad, here are some leisure-time activities which cost nothing and might give you satisfaction as you prepare to get the kids back to school and return to work:—

1. Knock out the bumps and paint the trash cans which the trashman has thrown around all year.

2. Give the backyard a good cleaning and get rid of the debris and paper which has accumulated and share them with Goodwill or a less fortunate family.

4. Write a letter to a shut-in friend or, better still take time to visit a neighbor in the hospital or offer free babysitting to that mother down the street whose husband is ill or overseas in the armed services.

5. Write a letter to the AFRO's City Editor, in which you tell what you think needs to be done to improve the city in which you live and how you visualize you might be able to contribute.

6. Make use of the Medical Health Center in your neighborhood and get an annual checkup from head to toe, particularly your eyes, teeth and the T.B. Test and the cancer exam.

7. Get away from the television set for a day and take the wife and kids on a tour of the city. If you've been chained to your job you have no idea how the city has changed.

8. Relax in the public park and enjoy nature, visit the zoo and the Baltimore Art Museum.

9. Write the public school headquarters or visit area colleges, particularly Community College of Baltimore, and enroll in courses, designed to help you improve on your job.

Other AFRO readers might think of similar relaxing things that can be done during a vacation away from the job, or school, or office. We hope they'll share them with us.

The Sports Complex

Suddenly, it appears that we are back where we began — 17 years ago, to be exact.

Baltimore's need for a new stadium was brought into focus away back in 1955, and politicians at both state and city levels were arguing the feasibility of building.

It was this proclivity for dragging its feet that earned for the local administration the disdain of Colts owner Carroll Rosenbloom, who emerged as the color-bearer for sports-minded Baltimoreans. It was at the root of his threat to pack up the football franchise and leave. And it was largely because of the haggling that stretched from days into weeks to months to years, that he finally looked for an escape and found it — in Los Angeles.

Everyone seems agreed that new, or vastly improved, facilities for outdoor entertainment is a need that must be fulfilled if Baltimore is to avoid the hick-town image in a modernized world.

But now that Carroll Rosenbloom is gone and the Colts seem set to stay, the 17-year-old questions are renewed: How is the erection of a new complex to be funded? And what is wrong with refurbishing the present plant?

The AFRO does not advocate the use of tax money to finance the project here, although many cities have done it to the benefit of all concerned. The bond-issue process employed by other locales is probably more suitable.

As for revamping the present structure, that would be like mending the trousers. It would simply delay replacement for only a short time.

And there is this to remember in discussing the massive repair job that would be necessary to modernize 33rd Street: Today's football teams begin breathing on the necks of the baseball people as early as August, and continue into late October. Football stays around until mid-January, and in early April baseball is back.

That leaves February and March, a couple of months that are hardly conducive to outdoor construction work.

Warden Schoonfield Again

Uncovered by the AFRO last week was a suit filed last month in U.S. District Court by six former City Jail inmates.

Through Legal Aid lawyers, they seek $60,000 damages from the warden, his assistant and five correctional officers, whom they accuse of harsh and brutal punishment.

Specifically, the former inmates charge they were hung by their handcuffed hands while prison employees pulled on their legs or burned their feet.

Warden Hiram Schoonfield's conduct of City Jail has been the subject of much criticism for the past year. At least six reports, by federal and local commissions, attest to the administrative breakdown there.

The new Jail Board suspended Warden Schoonfield for two weeks after a confrontation with guards.

He is now reported on leave, attending a convention. Hopefully, while he is away, he will be looking around for other employment.

Baltimore City Jail is a danger spot as long as Hiram Schoonfield occupies the warden's office.

The City Jail and the city itself are unsafe as long as he is in charge.

Mommy's Little Darling?

There are still too many mothers who think their little Johnnys and Marys are angels.

There are the mothers who tell you when Johnny comes home with some extra change in his pocket at age 9 that he didn't mean to steal it and that it was just a prank.

They are the kind who overlook the extra shoes and clothes and packages of food little Mary carts home at age 10, knowing full well it does not belong to her.

They are the mothers who daily appear in Juvenile Court and, yes, sometimes in Criminal Court, saying repeatedly, "He never gave me a minute's trouble."

They are the ones who failed to listen to the school guidance counselor or the Social worker who advised them to get care and help when Johnny and Mary were young.

The senseless killings of people by youngsters, many of them on drugs, have got to stop.

It won't stop if we continue to have mothers, and some fathers too, who fail to recognize that Johnny and Mary are not little angels.

They are hoodlums, thieves, killers, who have a reckless disregard for the rights of other people.

And they didn't start at age 17 when they put a gun to an old man's head or used a pistol to kill others.

To date, police estimate that there have been 200 homicides in the Baltimore metropolitan area in the last year, some 100 of them by guns.

We don't need better argument for outlawing the small hand gun, too easily secured and used by people who have been taught that they're little angels and they have a right to violate the rights of others and to snuff out human lives at will.

Get The Big Ones

A 36-year-old mother of six, and grandmother of three, was sentenced to six months in jail for lottery violations by Criminal Court Judge J. Harold Grady.

In sentencing the Payson Street welfare recipient, Judge Grady said he was convinced that the defendant was part of a large numbers ring. He denied a plea for probation so that she could be with her family.

Judge Grady's decision is an example of the failure of people in high places to understand that jailing a poor small time numbers operator is not the answer to the illegal gambling, which is more a social problem than a criminal one.

If gambling and lottery and numbers are unlawful then the place to start is at the top, with the big time operators, who control the lottery business in this and other cities.

It should begin with those who have connections with the race track who select the winning digits and arrange for publication of same.

It should start with the small band of bigwig operators of both races, who daily bleed poor people bent on a hope that some day they might get, "a hit."

The Payson Street mother's operations are probably peanuts compared to those which flourish in this city.

Judge Grady is a former Mayor of Baltimore. He must have more than a cursory knowledge of the special reasons why gambling, including numbers, still contaminate our city.

Jailing a poor mother won't rid us of this disease.

A little About a LOT

Company Union

The Board of School Commissioners, in accepting the Reorganization Plan for Baltimore City Public Schools, modified the intent and meaning of the Regional Advisory Councils.

The Regional Advisory Councils, according to the original plan, were to be composed of elected parents and community people from the regional school districts, who would make suggestions, evaluations, recommendations to improve the quality of education in those regional schools.

In 1970, parent representatives were selected from each school by the principals of those schools.

The Board chose to maintain this kind of advisory council, rather than adopt the regional advisory councils as set forth in the Reorganization Plan.

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With a community election (one parent from each school along with three members at large from the region)-principals would have less influence, would be bound by a democratic election of the community for parent representation on the advisory council.

Principals could not continue the "company union", hand-picking parents to be their mouthpieces.

An elected regional advisory council, especially with three members at large, would include representatives of the community, who, though they had no children in school, would take an interest in the operation of the schools; parents of students who transfer from region to region, would also be considered and welcomed as likely candidates under the new plan.

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Denial of a democratic election of parents on regional councils is an attempt to hold the line on community control of schools, by limiting independent community participation.

The old way will lead to regional school superintendents and principals passing the buck to the regional advisory council when parents become dissatisfied with the operation of their schools, or the quality of education.

At the same time it will give the administration the same old advantage of political patronage"—rewarding the "company union" members and punishing the outspoken independent thinking parents.

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In 1972, with the numerous problems of discipline, "Johnny" not reading, kids not being prepared for the world of work after high school graduation, school reorganization will only succeed with broad community representation, participation and support.

The Board of School Commissioners' vote to modify this important piece in reorganization reflects Mayor William Donald Schaefer's attitude of "benign neglect" toward the black community and his paranoid dislike and distrust of community participation.

MRS. MURPHY

It is evident that his latest appointments on the Board, in addition to Kalman Hettleman and Maree Farring are his "company union".

However, the Board of School Commissioners, as well as the school administration, despite antequated protective devices, must inevitably be responsive to the community.

Outspoken independent parents and community people who will be left out of the system, must actively seek out their representatives and make them responsive. At the same time, they must organize "Friends of the Regional Advisory Councils" to make certain community participation, involvement and representation is not a dream but a reality.

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Cuff Note: Perhaps in all the commotion about cuts in Special Education, you might wonder whose children wind up in that program and for what reasons.

Special Education in many cases, is a dumping ground for blacks, a convenience for inept teachers to keep pupils from learning. Special education reinforces the lie of racial inferiority.

If teachers teach pupils, pupils learn. If teachers teach material — lesson plans, units — without regard to the level of the pupil's understanding, interest or comprehension, causing pupils to become behavior problems, then they are dumped in Special Education, never to be seen or heard from until they pop up on welfare rolls or court dockets.

The hue and cry about special education comes again from the "company union", the people who benefit from keeping the system the way it is.

REPORT FROM WASHINGTON

By The Rich, For The Rich?

By PARREN J. MITCHELL, M.C.
(7TH DISTRICT-MARYLAND)
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

When the Economic Stabilization Act was being considered by the House Banking and Currency Committee, I introduced an amendment which would have prevented the Wage Board from freezing the wages of any worker who earned less than $3.35 an hour.

Although all wage earners would benefit by my amendment, it would be especially helpful to black workers who are still concentrated in the lowest salaried jobs in both public and private employment. To freeze their wages would be totally unjust.

My amendment passed overwhelmingly in Committee, and was incorporated in the final bill passed by the House of Representatives.

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However, the Cost of Living Council ignored the intent of Congress and established $1.90 an hour as the magic figure.

Thus, any person earning that amount or above would have his wages frozen during Phase II of the Economic game plan.

Organized labor, incensed by the arbitrary action of Nixon's Cost of Living Council, filed suit in Federal Court.

Recently, Judge William Jones ruled that the Cost of Living Council had violoted the intent of Congress by setting the $1.90 figure. Judge Jones issued an order enjoining the Cost-of-Living Council from enforcing controls based upon the $1.90 figure.

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If Judge Jones' ruling stands, approximately 14 million workers, a substantial portion being black, will be exempted from the wage freeze.

The big question is will the opinion stand?

The Nixon Administration has demonstrated a persistent, callous and cynical attitude toward black people and poor people in this country.

Following the usual line, attorneys for the Cost of Living Council have filed an appeal pointing out that if the opinion stands, the fight against inflation would be adversely effected.

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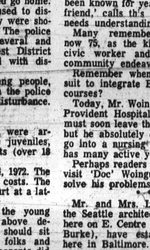
Why should black people and poor people be the ones to carry all the burden in the so-called fight against inflation?

What about the dairy farmers who, after kicking $72,500 to the Republican party, got what they wanted, an increase in milk price support levels?

What about International Telephone and Telegraph which guaranteed $400,000 to the Republicans for their convention and thus got what they wanted an out of court settlement arranged through the Justice Department?

What about the 10 million in campaign funds from big Corporations and fat-cats who made their contribution to Nixon just before the new federal election disclosure law took effect on April 7th of this year?

If the opinion is not upheld by the higher courts then one cannot blame the brother, earning $1.90 an hour, cutting corners to make ends meet for his family from saying "America—Government of the rich, by the rich, for the rich."



REP. MITCHELL

A Teacher's Prayer

By HARRIET VERNON
Counselor at Hampstead Hill Junior High School
Baltimore Maryland, 21224

These are our youth so proud and tall
Yet full of doubts for future years
Disguised in arrogance or hate
Or slipping out in fitful tears.
These, too, our youth with eager minds
In search of truth and wisdom's light,
With vision clear sometimes they find
A shorter path to strength and right.
Their minds must stretch but hearts grow, too,
In facing problems of this day;
And we who teach must help them all
To learn, to live, to love, to pray.
How shall we find the magic way
To lead them to most fruitful years,
To guide their thoughts and oft renew
The faith that dies
Teacher Eternal, help us lead
These youth to think with fearless mind;
Help us to strengthen them, and make
Us ever, patient, wise, and kind.

NOW and THEN

No Political Gains Without Black Press

By G. JAMES FLEMING

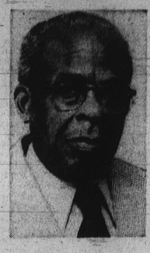
Without the black press, the political gains made by black Americans little as they might be — could not have been made.

Indeed, few of the steps forward by the race would have been achieved without this branch of American journalism — "the Negro press" (now-a-days "the Black press").

The victories in the courts and the exactions from the political parties would have been slower in coming if the Black press were not trumpeting the ills, the dreams, and the demands of black Americans.

It is the Black press that has given consistent voice to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, (NAACP); that has galvanized thinking blacks behind it, and kept the masses from losing courage.

All these thoughts have come to mind as the AFRO-AMERICAN celebrates the 80th anniversary of its founding this month — one of some 125 newspapers currently owned and published by U.S. blacks.



DR. FLEMING

It is not historically inconsequential that the first black college graduate in the U.S. (1826), immediately turned his talents to establishing and publishing the first black newspaper, Freedom's Journal.

It is dramatic how Willis Hodges, a house painter, answered the New York Sun when its editor refused to print a letter of protest written by Hodges. The editor said: "The Sun shines for white people only."

Hodges answered with deeds, not words, and used his savings, right away, to establish his own newspaper, The Rem's Horn, in order that New York Negroes might have voice against the discriminations and oppression suffered by both free men and slaves.

In a latter year, there was a black editor in Oklahoma (Roscoe Dunjee) who edited his paper with a shotgun by his side.

Here in Baltimore, John H. Murphy Sr., founder of the AFRO-AMERICAN, turned a Sunday School paper into a secular digesting organ which has taken Maryland at its word, as "The Free State," and which has used every means to make it live up to its claims.

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For decades it was the AFRO-AMERICAN which waged the campaign to abolish jim-crow cars in intrastate railroad transportation.

—

It was the AFRO which furnished the money to bring the law suits to open the University of Maryland Law School to blacks and, earlier, to equalize public school teachers' pay.

An almost dead NAACP in Maryland was brought back to life when, some 38 years ago, the AFRO's Dr. Carl Murphy, urged Dr. Lillie M. Jackson to resuscitate what is now one of the largest and most effective branches anywhere.

If it were not for that call from "Mr. Carl," many of the accomplishments of the Maryland NAACP branches could not have been achieved as early as they were.

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The breakthroughs to higher political and politics-related opportunities could not, and would not, have come without the black press.

Wherever there is a black member, or members, of city council, state legislature, school board, or of Congress, you can bet that such office was first achieved either because the black press led the way or because it militantly spoke up for the black community to the entrenched establishment.

The same is true of the first blacks on juries, the first blacks as policemen, the first blacks as officers in military units, for non-segregation in the armed forces, and against racial discrimination in hospitals and other health facilities.

The many drives to register blacks, in order that they might vote, were also either initiated by black newspapers or supported by them.

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Some of the black newspapers used different gimmicks to keep in the consciousness of their readers what their next political goal should be.

For instance, one paper for years, against hot more political recognition for blacks by using certain phrases as dividers ("dashes") between newsstories.

The first appeal, in bold-type, read:

"A City Councilman"

After the first black councilman was elected, it changed its lines to:

"A Negro in the Legislature"

Some years after the line read:

"A Negro Judge"

Still later:

"A Negro Congressman"

Many hundreds of thousands of these provocative reminders appeared down the years. Now, that city can point to one of its blacks in the House of Representatives and to many black councilmen black state legislators, black judges, and members of the board of education.

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This list could go on and on, although the millennium has certainly not arrived.

What the AFRO has done to place blacks in high political office—from school board to Congress—is well known.

In those days when white newspapers seldom carried any constructive news concerning blacks, but published much labeled crime news, it was the black press, almost alone, that waged the campaign against such discriminatory handling of news, and that carried non-crime community news.

It was black editors and black reporters, also, who exposed the "Negro-did-it" stories which charged blacks with crimes (including sex crimes) which no black person had committed but for which many were arrested and sentenced and imprisoned.

When this writer hears some black folks say, haughtily and pridefully, "Oh, I don't read those papers," he comes nearest to losing his "cool" because, usually, the non-readers we ? not be "sitting pretty" as much as he is — financially and otherwise — if it had not been for the black press, despite whatever faults it may have.

(Even race-baiting Senators Vardaman and Bilbo bought the Chicago Defender regularly and carried it to their office, wrapped in the New York Times. They wanted to keep "abreast" . . . .)

Voltaire once said: "If the people did not have a God, they would make one."

Just so, if present-day black Americans had not inherited the black press, they would have to start one.

Police Major Speaks With The People

Police Assaults Hurt YOU!

By MAJ. JAMES H. WATKINS

(ED's NOTE: Major. Watkins, one of Baltimore City's highest ranking police officers, is director of the Department's Community Relations Division, which won a place on the AFRO's 1971 Honor Roll. He is a veteran of 22 years on the force).

My heart is heavy at this time, not for any animosity by others towards me or any personal problem. My feelings are low because of the poor relationship between the citizens and police are no apparent reason.

On August 11, 1972, at 12:05 a.m. a large crowd of young people left the vicinity of the 5300 block of Maple Ave. (reportedly from a couple of parties in the area).

This crowd converged on Park Heights Ave., walking South, creating a disturbance by loud and unseemly noises and also blocking traffic.

Bureau of Communications gave out several calls to radio cars in the area. Citizens swamped the police switchboard with complaints about the rowdy group.

• • •

Because of the high crime in this area the Police Department had extra foot officers in the area. The crowd was approached by the officers, who asked the kind of demeanor the good citizens had been insisting the Police Department display. They asked the crowd to part and go home.

A few in the crowd refused to disburse, (witnesses said they were showing off for their peers.) The police officer wisely arrested seven and carried them to Northwest District where they were charged with disorderly conduct.

Six or seven other young people, not arrested, converged on the police station creating more disturbance. They too were arrested.

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Altogether, 24 persons were arrested, 17 of whom were juveniles, and the other 7 were adults (over 18 years).

Trial was held August 14, 1972. The adults were fined $50 and costs. The juveniles will be before court at a later date.

A note to parents of the young people involved in the above described disorder: — you should sit down with your younger folks and preach to them like your parents did to you.

Don't blame society for being permissive. Where were you when your child was infringing on other people's civil rights?

If the above incident isn't enough to cause a heavy heart, read on.

In the Western District on Saturday, August 12, 1972, Officer Raymond Bryant was patrolling his assigned area when an unknown citizen stopped him and advised him of a fight between two youths.

The officer went to the 1600 Block of Braddish Ave. observing a large crowd of juveniles surrounding two youths fighting.

Officer Bryant attemped to part the two gladiators, only to be attacked by a 20-year-old young woman and a 15-year-old youth of the same address.

As a result of the above, a call for assistance was sounded — Sgt. William Burke arrived.

• • •

Out of the crowd a very cowardly person, hiding behind a crowd, threw a bottle, striking the much decorated police sergeant in the face. He suffered cuts and bruises.

This fine officer lived and worked in the ghetto. He joined the police force to help change some of the alleged wrong being perpetrated upon black people.

brothers from fighting each other.

Instead of a crowd stopping black like uncivilized people, they attack, for no reason protectors of the public performing duties they are paid to perform.

The only consolidation from the above described acts is the silent majority are observing the wrongful acts being done by both the few people in the community or a very few police.

The Police Department is weeding out bad apples whenever they are identified.

• • •

My question to the good people of Baltimore is, when are you going to stop letting a few demented people commit violent acts? Not when are you going to stand up and be counted?

These are three possible courses to take now.

(1) Let the hoodlums control your community by first attacking police and if they are successful, they become the dictator and your "protector"

(2) Let your community become so lawless that in 5 years only a Police state can restore peace.

(3) Or, join hands with the whole criminal justice system — (police-courts and legal system), and let Democracy work as it was intended to work — "For All People"

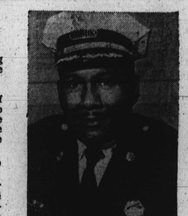
Wake up, you fine people, help your police get the hoodlums out of your community!

• • •

THOUGHT FOR TODAY . . . When I'm wrong no one forgets.

• • •

MAJOR WATKINS' Answers:



MAJ. WATKINS

To the resident in the 1800 Block of Eagle St.: — Your letter has been received and corrective action will be taken.

TO MRS. G. W. 1900 Block Payson St.: — Investigation will be made in reference to your son.

(Editors Note: Address questions to Major Watkins, care of AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203)

Shooting Dope Is Pain

Dear AFRO: Shooting dope and getting much high will make you a prisoner in chains.

Your body will be filled with sweat and pain.

How was I caught in this game?
Who can I blame for my faults, Oh what a shame
Shooting dope and getting much high.
I'm not really slick or cool
Shooting dope and getting much high.
I am not blind I just refuse to see
This can be, for this is not me
Life seems so sweet and real
Now that I no longer have to steal.
I'm as free as a wild rabbit
For I have kicked the habit
You don't have to take a trip
just to be slick and hep.
So take my advice and leave that dope alone
Shooting dope and getting much high will
Tear you apart and
Bust your Heart.

ALEXANDER BLACKWELL

IF YOU ASK ME

By BETTYE MOSS

Creston (Doc) Woingust, who has been known for years as "everybody's friend," calls this week to advise he needs understanding friends.

Many remember Mr. Woingust, now 79, as the kindly businessman, civic worker and helper in many community endeavors.

Remember when he helped in the suit to integrate Baltimore City golf courses?

Today, Mr. Woingust is a patient at Provident Hospital (Room 7031). He misses being in the hospital, he says, but he absolutely does NOT want to go into a nursing home. He feels he has many active years left.

Perhaps readers who see this might visit 'Doc' Woingust and help him solve his problems.

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Mr. and Mrs. Leon Bridges (he's the Seattle architect who has offices here on E. Centre St. — Bridges and Burke), have established residence here in Baltimore.

As of last Monday, they are in their Windsor Rd. residence until the new home they're building in Mt. Washington is ready.

A t the Univ. of Delta Sigma Theta sorors: Mrs. Bridges (Eloise), is one of you. In Seattle, she was a lecturer in the U. of Washington School of Social Work.

The Bridges children are: Vanessa, 11; Elise, 10; Leon Jr., 8; and Elliott, 7. All are enrolled in Baltimore schools.

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More people moving about: Dr. and Mrs. Harold Adams (Catherine) are in their Belvedere Towers Apartment.

Their former Morgan Park home is the new residence of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Stanley (Dorothy).

He's the program specialist with the Md. Council for Higher Education. She's the Morgan State College dance instructor.

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Word from Copenhagan that Baltimore born Ernest (Sonny) Goodman, is out of the hospital and doing well, but resting like the doctor ordered.

He is an official with U.S. Information Office in Copenhagen. Remember he was reared in Baltimore and attended local public schools.

• • •

Our namesake, Bettye Matthews Dopson postcards from Germany, stating that she and her husband, Lt. Hugh Dopson, also Baltimore born, have been showing Baltimore's Pat Payne the sights in Germany, Switzerland and other points. Pat is off to Paris this weekend before returning here to her teaching post.

• • •

The Guy Smiths (Thelma) of Los Angeles, visited in D.C. with the Charles Browns (Connie). The Smiths are also former Baltimore residents.

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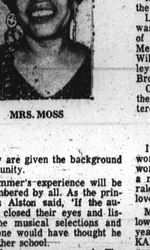
Mrs. Charlotte Sevan postcards from Europe where she reports she has met interesting people.



MRS. MOSS

• • •

Distinguished visitor in our midst last week was Cecil George Phillips of Kingston, Jamaica, where he is deputy director of surveys.

He guested the Dr. and Mrs. Eric White (Yvonne).

Small world: When the Hon. Mr. Phillips and Dr. White visited the AFRO office, it was reunion time.

Dr. White and our business manager, Mr. Jon Partee, had not met since their schools days at Howard University in the early fifties. Small world.

• • •

Answering a reader who asked who was the lady this column wrote about a week or so ago. Reference was to how good it feels to have a senior citizen walk up to you and say: "I know you and I knew your mother and grandmother'.

The lady who extended this greeting to this columnist was gracious Mrs. Edna Bowen Newton of Robert St.

She does not look her 82 years, still drives her car and gets around.

We met at the recent birthday party for Miss Anna Bennett.

Cuff note: Many know Mr. Newton as a longtime member of Sharp St. Methodist Church, and as a longtime public school employee. Remember when she was the school home visitor?

• • •

Jazz goes to camp: At the Baltimore Area YMCA's Camp King's Landing in Calvert County a Sunday ago, the place rocked.

Reason: The Blueberry Patch' was there to entertain campers.

It was a sight to see the campers sit quietly and listen as the young entertainers gave out with the sounds.

Members of the group are all Baltimore city high school students and do not have some equipment!

They are: Ricky Johnson, City, lead guitar; Michael Sewell, Northwestern, drums; Karen Williamson, Walbrook, bass; and Saroya Sewell, Northwestern, lead guitar and vocalist. All are 16 except Michael, who is 15.

• • •

Good news about a summer school program: Those who were there arresinging the praises of the activities held this summer at Lakeland No. 109 and 109A, at Ashland and Broadway.

They testify to the dedication of the principal, Miss Gloria Alston, the teachers, the parents and the children, and they have taken time to write us about them:

"Although a child has been branded as an inner city child or one from the ghetto; look on the inside of this child; point out how this child can be helped, and then give all of yourself to try to get this child to improve socially, emotionally, and academically. Sometimes you can learn much from this child.

"We know the parents, pupils, and staff at School No. 109-109A did learn that children at this school can perform as well as any group anyplace, if only they are given the background and opportunity.

"This summer's experience will be well remembered by all. As the principal, Miss Alston said, 'If the audience had closed their eyes and listened to the musical selections and speaking, one would have thought he was in another school.

"The preformance was superb. The theme for the culminating activity was "Understanding Us."

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Cuff Note: The husband-wife team of Sandra and Ernestine E. DeBerry gave a memorable performance for the school.

Mr. DeBerry, who is well known for his musical ability, directed the magnificent music.

Mrs. DeBerry, who majored in reading and speech, directed the speaking. They received a standing ovation.

Also a treat: The Fort Worthington Refrain for School No. 85. Mr. DeBerry composed the music and Mrs. DeBerry wrote the words. Glorious!

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People are concerned about the Mondawmin office of the C and P Telephone Co., which has not become 'visible' at the top, yet!

George Brown, longtime exec with C and P, was overlooked when a vacancy was created several weeks ago. The former manager, Bill Dunbar, (who is white), moved to another post.

Dunbar's replacement at this office which has a predominance of black customers, was another white employee.

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Harlem Subway Graffiti: "You can't be free if someone else lets you be free."

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Truisms of the week: Pessimist finds fault; optimist discovers a remedy. Pessimist seeks sympathy; optimist spreads cheer. Pessimist criticizes circumstances; optimist changes conditions. Pessimist complains about the apple seeds; optimist plants them. Pessimist imagines impending peril; the optimist see signs of prosperity. Pessimist discourages; optimist encourages; pessimist creates loneliness; optimist finds friends.

A Column Of CHOICE

Parents Participate

By MARION M. BANFIELD

Last week I promised to finish writing about school No. 250, the Bernard Harris Sr. School at Caroline and Oliver Sts.

Parents had accompanied children on trips to Harper's Ferry and Gettysburg. Mrs. Emma Anderson was the teacher assistant working on art work and stories about the trip with Mesdames Rose Reynolds, Annie M. Farrar, and Mary Gattis with Julia Dorsey and another teacher assistant.

Whereas, some schools haven't been aware of the need for black children to see blacks on bulletin boards and in books, the message was clear in the classrooms I visited.

Children had written short stories about their everyday experiences. Black adults and children's faces were prevalent.

Mrs. Astamay Curtis was the liaison teacher whose students were Mesdames Ernestine Rouzer, Rosa Lee Owens, Janis Keene and Pauline Colbert.

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Dictionary skills are badly needed by many parents and children. Some mothers are apt to say, "Go look it up in the dictionary," without being aware of types of dictionaries. A third grader needs a simpler dictionary than the high school student.

In other words, one dictionary in the house is not always enough.

Learning how to choose meanings was good exercise under the direction of Mrs. Arlene Ingram, teacher of Mesdames Patricia Mobley, Romona Wilson, Rosa Marie Hicks, Julia Hanley, Thelma Carter and Beatrice Brown.

Of course, in a gathering this size there are always some especially interesting people.

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I noticed a beautifully poised young woman sitting across from an older woman whom she resembled. It was a mother-daughter team of Mrs. Geraldine Ash, mother of eight, and her lovely daughter, Mrs. Sandrie Gantt.

Mrs. Ash is chairman of the Follow-Through program. For three years she was a liaison worker with KAPS. She is currently on the Emergency Parents Board of Area A of Model Cities.

Mrs. Gantt is a 1964 graduate of Dunbar High School. It is obvious that she is a graduate of the Patricia Stevens modeling program.

She is leader of Girl Scout Troop 518. Happily we can anticipate her becoming a psychologist.

When so many are sitting around feeling sorry for themselves or feeling that everybody ought to pay for their mistakes, it was good to meet Mrs. Doris Pride.

Mrs. Pride is mother of eleven children. She received a scholarship to Community College of Baltimore and intends to return to study in Early Childhood Development.

I asked Mrs. Catherine Evans, mother of six, what real value all of this summer program was to her. With enthusiasm, she related how much more competent she is to help her third grader, Charles Evans.

Above all, is the new self-assurance. Prior to her involvement in school learning, Mrs. Evans said she could not do a lot of things. Speaking to a group was out of the question.

Now she has gotten past the "can't do" stage and feels confident to speak, to express her opinion, to reach out for more learning opportunities, and to be part of what happens in her community.

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Another proud mother at the school was Mrs. Mildred Jaunita Davis, who showed snapshots of her son, the only black boy in the Soap Box Derby. She stuck with him and made sure he competed. Good for mother and son!

Now, that raises a very important question. Why was there only one black boy in the Derby?

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Here we have seen the choices that women have made to participate in the educational process of their children.

Their personal efforts in behalf of their children have made some of them feel more self-confident as citizens of the community.

That is what education can do if parents will get involved with a good program.

If parents and educators feel that they need some extra help in getting a strong program, they can write to Mr. Ronald Watts, Specialist in Urban Education, Division of Compensatory, Urban and Supplementary Programs, International Tower Building, 6510 Elkridge Landing Road, Linthicum, Anne Arundel County.

Since the city budget has been cut, now is a good time to write to Mr. Watts who is an educator on the state level to see what services can be gotten from him.

MRS. BANFIELD,

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On Schoonfield

Dear AFRO:

Warden Schoonfield should be dismissed and replaced for reasons known to most Baltimoreans especially those of us who read the AFRO weekly and who keep up with the latest innate expressions of Warden Schoonfield towards black employees there at the City Jail.

Warden Schoonfield is the epitome of white society's longtime intrinsic racist attitudes towards black people in this country.

When irritated they quickly note the difference in skin color rather than listen to what the person has to say.

This is the narrow-minded and inhuman way many whites react when it comes to people of color. They must learn to deal better with people of color and be more logical especially since we all live in the same country and black people do intend to be here indefinitely.

Call Mayor Schaefer and express feelings on the matter. Call City Hall.

ERNESTINE CHRISTMAS

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.