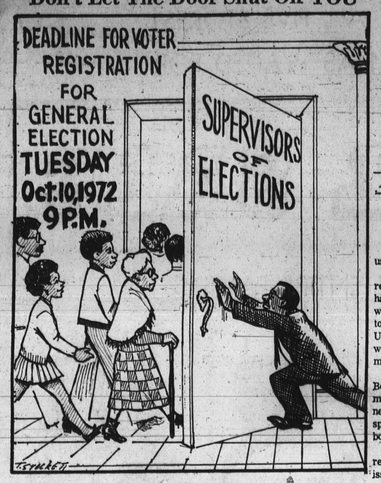
Don't Let The Door Shut On YOU



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.

False Leadership

Dear AFRO: I am opposed to the re-election of Nixon and Agnew.

They plant the seed of racial hatred. They give false leadership to the idea of busing school children as if it were an evil thing.

The world knows busing has been a strong arm of education in America in former years.

It also knows that busing blacks is merely the vehicle to end the evils of racial school segregation: unequal education for blacks and poor whites.

Nixon and Agnew appeal to the racially restrictive and regressive base prejudices of the nation. They would divide the American people on the principles of freedom and equality.

They would block the U.S. Court's protections of minorities. With the upward surge of brown, black and yellow people of the world, American children will need all the love, respect, and yes, peace, they can find. They will have a barren search if the Nixon-Agnew advocacy of the resegregation of the public school persists.

I am a black law-abiding American citizen. I am a Republican, too.

Still, I am opposed to the election of Nixon and Agnew, this slick team, of Wall-street dazzlers, racial hatred-sowers, who would juggle a run-away bureaucracy and inflationary war costs against the dire needs of the poor, the aged, the sick and the unemployed.— EARL KOGER SR.

Soul Food Bad?

Dear AFRO: Dr. Elijah Saunders states "soul food" may be harmful, cause high blood pressure and hypertension.

I have to agree on one of Dr. Saunders main reasons for the hight percentage of blacks suffering high blood pressure, that cause being hereditary.

Our forefathers many years ago in slavery, poorly fed by their masters, sought nourishment from the parts of the hog that the boss threw away.

This included, pig feet and chitterlings, which these folks were intelligent enough to prepare and make edible so that their offspring would survive. The boss wondered how these slaves became so strong. They made it, but perhaps this hereditary high blood pressure resulted from the meat which at that time wasn't inspected.

As far as the salt that Dr. Saunders states our black brothers overseasoned their soul food with, this is comparable to stereotyping, all of us don't prepare our soul foods the same. I pour on the salt but my wife doesn't. All blacks can't be put in one category.

Another reason Dr. Saunders gave for blacks and hypertension was our environment because of stress and living conditions. Omission can be worse than the truth.

Dr. Saunders never mentioned in the article the fact that this environment, may produce the same results. Because blacks are sold inferior meat at high prices.

Our former major had this proven with a study made by Morgan State College. These results were proven, but did the stores get reprimanded or fined? No, the issue was dropped like a hot potato. Let's place the blame where it belongs, on a complacent society.

Now, regards to the salt content of soul food, what about our Jewish friends and the Kosher food, corned beef and franks? You need a gallon of water after a few bites.

JOHN T. BAILEY
(Former AFRO Employee.)

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

And So Young!

Dear AFRO: While collecting my mail at one of the outdoor mail compounds in the new city of Columbia, two little sisters, about four and five years old, were playing nearby.

The older girl said to the other: "That woman is black, we're not black, you know, we're white . . . I'm glad I'm not black, I'm glad I'm white."

How discerning, I thought, in a child so young . . . despite all the progress for a few "fat black cats," the majority of blacks in America are still treated like second and third class citizens.

Yes, little nameless white child, you have been taught your lesson early . . . sadly enough, it really is still better in America, in the over-due-for-brotherhood-year of Our Lord, 1-9-7-2, to be white instead of black! — ELISSA WARD JOHNSON

Police Fair

Dear AFRO: Those Baltimore City Police Officers who responded to the end zone incident during the Colts-Jets game should be complimented for the manner in which they handled the situation.

In this day when there is a prevalence of disregard for public officials, I am hereby taking this opportunity to publicly commend the Baltimore City Police Department for their demonstration of fairness and their effectively quelling what was rapidly developing into an ugly situation — JOHN B. FERRON.

Little White Lie

Dear AFRO: The fairy tale told by that 11-year-old white boy, who gave a detailed description of a black youth he said punched a cigarette in his eye causes me to wonder how many more liars like this have not been caught.

Except for the fact that someone saw him burn himself, I wager police would have rounded up all the 18-year-old black males 5 ft. 4, wearing blue shirts they could find. This is horrible. — JAMES ELSEN

Congratulations

Dear AFRO:

Congratulations on your eightieth

It is so wonderful about a family staying together for four generations that it makes me believe you have been praying together.

Keep up the family union.

—JOSHUA B. WILLIAMS JR.

Baltimore Afro-American

OUR 80TH ANNIVERSARY 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.

A-4 OCTOBER 7, 1972

Time Is Running Out

Tuesday, October 10, is now upon us.

Since last May when the books reopened for registration, the AFRO has been reminding its readers every week that if they would be prepared to vote for the next President of the United States and for candidates who will represent them in Congress they must register.

Thanks to concerned citizens, the Board of Supervisors of Elections has made available registration places in neighborhoods convenient to perspective voters and even opened books on Sundays.

This is a big weekend. A list of registration places published in this issue shows there will be Saturday and Sunday hours again. Monday (Columbus Day), is a holiday, but there will be registration around the clock on the final day, Tuesday.

To date, officials report registration has been slow. Some politicians attribute this to a lack of interest in the Presidential candidates.

This may not necessarily be so. The 18-year-olds and over voters are an unknown quantity.

Furthermore, just as Baltimoreans wait until the last minute to get their driver's license, they'll likely do the same thing on Tuesday at the War Memorial Building where the registration books are open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

We don't know the reason, but we hope they'll live up to tradition and stay in line until they're on the books.

It's one thing to complain about what's wrong with the country, it's more important to be prepared to vote and say it at the ballot box where it counts.

Colts—Long WINTER

There are unmistakable signs that a long winter is in the making for Baltimore sports fans.

The Orioles blew the baseball shot, the Clippers loom as another Baltimore hockey team that will do the usual good seasonal job, then flop at the end; the Bullets are the Bullets, and the Colts, well. . .

The story of the fall of the Birds has been told over again many times, so there is little need in wasting time on a well-picked carcass.

Hockey continues as a relatively new experience for AFRO readers, mainly because the game offers so few players with whom they can identify.

With Elvin Hayes, but minus Archie Clark, the Bullets figure no better than a year ago. But, even if they are, they are leaving town, so it is hard to embrace them.

The Colts, already 1-2, have yet to face the Cowboys, the Jets and Joe Namath again, the Chiefs in Kansas City and the Miami Dolphins twice.

It looks like a l-o-n-g winter.

Watch It, Mr. Owen

Two wrongs don't make a right and for that reason it is prudent for someone to ask fire board president Howard Owen whether he is attempting to curb a community hazard by exceedingly dangerous means.

False fire alarms add up to a danger to both firemen and other citizens. The more often firemen race to scenes of fires, or to answer false calls, the more chance there is for accidents. Also, the greater the possibility becomes that firemen will be in the wrong place when a fire breaks out.

Our experience has been that responsible citizens don't turn in false fire alarms.

It also has been our experience that warnings from many parents don't suddenly result in an end to false fire alarms.

It is foolish and dangerous, in fact, a bit petty and paternalistic, for the non-Baltimorean who runs the fire board, to threaten removal of fire alarm boxes from Myrtle Ave. and Hoffman St., and other areas.

If indeed Mr. Owen has such detailed information on where most of the false alarms are coming from, rather than resort at this time to "papa gonna spank you all" threats, some other option should be tried.

He says when he takes away a fire alarm box the city then will have to spend additional funds to use someone with a radio system to make sure fires are reported. Why not use some of that extra money now to attempt to nab some of the culprits causing the problem?

If Howard Owen and others who think like him could get through their skulls the truism that responsible citizens in areas plagued by false fire alarms—or crime—would end the problem without threats from them if they could, maybe they would not be so sanctimonious in their non-resident roles.

The AFRO joins other concerned Baltimoreans in urging everyone interested in the welfare of the community to be on the watch for the false alarmers who endanger us all. Guilty persons deserve to be punished.

But it is our considered judgment that the fire board president is going about attempting to solve the problem in the wrong way. We would not want to be in his shoes if his game plan ever results in fire deaths—not even if people just think deaths are due to his threatened plan.

Save Hiram?

Ed Russo, an insurance broker, and Harry D. Kaufman, one-time Jail Board president, are leading a campaign to have City Jail Warden Hiram Schoonfield restored to his post.

Already, 'Save Hiram' bumper stickers have made their appearance.

This should not be surprising to AFRO readers. We are used to so-called concerned citizens fighting to the last minute to protect a public official who has failed.

For the past year, penal experts, a special citizens' committee, a grand jury panel and others have attested to the apparent incompetency of Warden Schoonfield.

Now come Messrs. Russo, Kaufman et al who claim to be more knowledgeable than the experts who have studied the jail and found it has deteriorated under the Schoonfield administration.

The new Jail Board which ousted him gave Warden Schoonfield an opportunity to resign or be fired. He declined, was dismissed and is now appealing to the Civil Service Commission.

Messrs. Russo, Kaufman et al are not sufficiently qualified to give an objective assessment of the Schoonfield situation, so they should keep quiet.

We can understand their interest in Friend Schoonfield, but we're more concerned about how his administration of the City Jail has affected inmates and the climate of our city.

Fair Shares

Baltimore City Fair which attracted a million and a half visitors last weekend to downtown Baltimore was a success because it gave the total community a chance to share in the endeavor.

There was something for everybody. Neighborhood groups which prepared exhibits had an opportunity to show their wares as well as share in a portion of the ticket profit.

Visitors were impressed by the friendliness, the interest and the beauty of this citywide endeavor.

Baltimore City Fair coordinators deserve congratulations for giving us another opportunity to demonstrate that people with a common interest can work together in harmony provided they can share in the planning and the profits.

'Smile, you're in Baltimore.'

A little About a LOT

Why HRC Anyway?

By MADELINE W. MURPHY

If Governor Marvin Mandel is moving toward emasculating the Human Relations Commission (HRC), if he is willing to follow George Solter's swan song recommendation to turn enforcement powers over to the Attorney General's office, why should Maryland have HRC, anyway?

The principal function of HRC is to enforce civil rights laws. If it is weak, unable to do this, if it lacks legal expertise, the governors, past and present, are to blame, not the victim of this ineptitude — the Human Relations Commission.

But, as is always the case with blacks, we, the victims, are blamed for conditions for which we are not responsible.

In a twelve-member commission, presently composed of eleven, one of whom is ready to resign, only one is a lawyer in addition to the new chairman, former City Councilman Jacob J. Edelman, age 72.

The commission has five blacks, two residing in Baltimore, and six whites, who cannot fulfill the technical legal demands of the Human Relations Commission.

Much of the legal problems of HRC would be solved if civil rights law at the University of Maryland Law School, would be taught in cooperation with the work of the commission.

Thus, the Law School would be able to develop internships for black students to engage in research, to write briefs.

HRC would then serve as an important training ground to meet the need for more black civil rights lawyers in Maryland.

With the number of instances in Maryland of discrimination in employment, housing, education, welfare, eager beaver apprentice lawyers would develop a broader knowledge with actual field experience, and HRC would be more independent as well as competent.

The new commission chairman, Jacob J. Edelman is at his advanced age, admittedly longing for retirement.

As HRC is presently constituted with staff, commission membership lacking in legal expertise, this shrewd politician, wise in the ways of maneuvering, can restrain progress with legal mumbo-jumbo, and can thwart, rather than move, civil rights litigation to a low level of inaction, the likes of which we haven't seen since the Commission was begun.

Once again, Governor Marvin Mandel, with this appointment, has protected his flanks admirably.

He has given a sinecure to an old buddy, one with familial ties, whose main purpose will be to delay action and gradually deliver the principle powers of HRC — enforcement in cases of discrimination — to the Attorney General.

You and I know, cases like that in the Attorney General's office are as scarce as hen's teeth. Come to think of it, I don't ever remember the Attorney General filing suit against anyone, (the State in particular) for racial discrimination.

One doesn't bite the hand that feeds one, now does one?

Now, J. J. Edelman in his own words admits: "My life's work has been in mediation and arbitration . . . this is nothing new to me."

It will be interesting to see with whom mediation and arbitration will be conducted. So why HRC?

The reason for HRC is that state agencies in Maryland comprise the most visible evidence of discrimination in employment, especially on supervisory and managerial levels.

The private social service agency, the United Fund, which sustains itself on your contributions and mine, would never have been investigated if there had not been a Human Relations Commission.

Never mind that HRC had to be prodded by the Community Health Council, the report was none the less damaging in its documentation of discriminatory practices in member agency boards and services.

Active investigation of these conditions would naturally lead to suits of discrimination against state and private agencies through the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, if all local remedies failed.

This suggests that there would be a vigorous chairman, vigorous and expert commission members, and most importantly, a determined director who would aggressively attack and secure equal employment opportunities in the agencies of the State of Maryland as well as private social service agencies.

This would also suggest that employment for blacks across the board would ease the horrendous unemployment problem of blacks in the inner city.

Under this wishful thinking, the executive director and commission would use its power to enforce affirmative action programs in construction jobs, and with its track record would be able to seek additional funding from the legislature to do a vigorous unhampered job of investigation and enforcement in every area of discrimination within the State of Maryland — the Free State.

Former Chairman George Solter's plan to reduce the Commission membership to seven, to turn the enforcement powers of the HRC over to Attorney General Burch, would give the HRC nothing to do.

The power brokers, some of whom are guilty of discrimination in their own businesses, have found that HRC is worrisome, is troublesome and at times downright embarrassing, so out it goes.

Blacks cannot become tired of reacting to important issues such as this. We must continue to resist this emasculation and at the same time, we must develop the economic and political clout to reform the government of Maryland.

Discrimination will always be a problem unless we look to 1974, when we can elect people whose words become deeds and whose interest is not political manipulation but black emancipation.

"Without vision, the people perish."

Dishonest Criticism

Dear AFRO: All newspapers expect some form of criticism. Indeed, those who appreciate the remnant of freedom of expression still available in this nation welcome a free exchange of ideas and opinions, regardless of the sources.

However, many citizens in the black communities of our country welcome criticism for a different reason, recognizing that we are in a unique position within the "Democratic" society . . . and that honest criticism, in relation to our ethnic endeavors, is seldom honest.

Instead, criticism emanating from other groups — other interests, frequently acts as a barometer and sometimes as a compass by which we may gauge the impact of our endeavors, upon the "larger" society.

Criticism in this context often indicates we are GAINING in our quest for liberty, freedom and self-determination.

We know that gain for black people often constitutes an untenable threat (real or imagined) to many . . . thus, honest criticism is warped by dishonest motives, and, as in the story by the SUN reporter, even the good we do may be used against us.

Therefore, in my opinion, it would behoove all of us in the black community to carefully consider the motives which prompted this "treatise" on the AFRO — rather than waste too much time in senseless dialogue with regard to specific allegations. (Ed. Note: Article by Sun reporter, reprinted in AFRO Sept. 23, 1972.)

Are we to believe a "white" SUN reporter wrote the article out of a strong moral or ethical concern for black people? That the motivation for this journalistic napalm raid was in any way geared toward uplifting or inspiring us?

If so, where was he all the years the black community managed to survive . . . with ONE voice, the AFRO? Where was he and where was the SUN? To my knowledge, it wasn't shining on the black community.

Hopefully, we will be fully cognizant of the dangers of falling prey to opinions or charges so obviously intended to demoralize both the AFRO and the black community.

Hopefully we will not permit ourselves to succumb to dissention or petty dissatisfaction within our community or our newspaper.

We do not need a conglomerate of "great white father" zealots or self-styled AFRO historians to point out the quality or structure of our institutions.

The existance of the AFRO, and even more important, the tremendous need for its existance, he an irrevocable indictment against those institutions which, somehow manage to produce an endless array of self-righteous missionaries.

Let's not be fooled by the "white" SUN reporter aspect of the article — I strongly suspect one would not have to dig too deep to scratch a zebra or two.

Instead, bear in mind that this diligent effort to undermine the credibility and effectiveness of the AFRO is a clear indication of the positive effect of the AFRO . . . folks simply don't invest that much time trying to ax a loser!

This diligent effort, of which all knowledge has been disavowed by the SUN, may well reflect, among other things — the importance of the black vote in November, and as a consequence — the importance of the AFRO to the black voter.

Let's not be distracted from the work we MUST be about. BEVERLY BRUCE HAVARD.

NOW and THEN

Market Stall Sound Step In Business

By G. JAMES FLEMING

Some people just do not like working for others; some have a special knack for buying and selling; still others would enter business of some kind, "if I only had the money (big money)."

To all such people there is a sound opportunity to start, at a size and level which they can handle. They can begin by operating their own stall in one of the city's public markets.

A stall in a market is just like any other shop or store—except that it is easier to rent, and the rent is low. It should have special appeal to young, bright, enterprising people; to veterans, and to those who retire early.

DR. FLEMING

With imagination on the part of the owners, and with their giving a square deal to customers, these stalls can give a good living to those who devote themselves to their business.

All over Europe and Africa (and we understand in other parts, too) colorful markets, full of fresh vegetables, fruit, poultry, fish or meats (sometimes all of them) still attract large numbers of patrons, despite the proliferation of supermarkets.

Large numbers of people prefer shopping where everything seems "just from the farm" and where there is the "smell of freshness." These people also like the lower prices which a market's lower rent allows.

In addition to farm produce, public markets nowadays also carry nearly everything else—the sky is the limit.

Veterans who were in the Supply or Quartermaster Corps or any other branch having to do with ordering, stocking, and keeping inventories, or those in areas of foods, should give a second look at starting a business of their own.

These, and others, will find there is lots of help they can get in every city on how to start a little business.

What about the city? A city like Baltimore owes it to its markets to see that they are kept clean and brightly lighted, that they have ample parking space, that they are well policed, and that weights and measures are correct.

If markets are not attractive and inviting, customers will not patronage them. They will go to the dazzling shopping centers.

Why are we dealing about market stalls, this column usually devoted to political affairs?

Because, what does it benefit a people if they engage in politics or if they get a few political "plums" or even some prestigious recognitions, if such a people are also totally outside the economic stream?

No people can be strong and healthy if they always buy but never sell, if they furnish profits to others but never make profits themselves; if they must always beg for jobs but never have jobs to give.

Next, market stalls have given some families a good living for generations, with more than the mere minimum of existence. They own their homes, send their children to college, support community institutions, take trips abroad.

Even if one does not run a stall all his life, starting in a public market is a good first step to other or larger business enterprise.

There can be no real political power where there is no economic power, or almost no economic power.

STOP KILLINGS: All readers of this column should be solidly behind Congressman Parren Mitchell in his moving appeal for our Brothers and Sisters to stop killing each other.

No enemy of black people is killing as many Blacks every week as are Black people themselves.

No police force is killing as many Blacks every week as are Blacks killing each other.

Indeed, the number of blacks killed by blacks in Baltimore two weeks ago was higher than all the U.S. soldiers killed in Vietnam during the same week.

It is high time the black community make a united, many-sided effort to put an end to such racial slaughter and to all the other killings which place hundreds of our young men and women to waste their lives in prisons.

We must also fight those who entrap Black people into the drug net, since drugs are behind so much of present-day murders.

If YOU Ask ME

By BETTYE MOSS

Times do change:—The Md. Association of Boards of Education, long a lily-white group, has named Charles F. Nealy of Aberdeen, president. Election was at the annual meeting in Prince Georges County last weekend.

Mr. Nealy is the well-known member of the Harford County board of education, who has paid his dues to his fellow man for many years, and is still doing so. Hats off to him for sticking in there!

Happiness is waking up in the morning to listen to the morning news as enunciated by pretty Michele Clark. Her beautiful voice makes you want to get up and moving.

We've watched her off and on in recent weeks and particularly this week as she carried the CBS morning news show in the absence of John Hart who is in Hanoi.

Yesterday, we called her office in Washington to find out that she is as lovely on the phone as on TV. Plus, we learned these facts:—

She hails from Chicago, is 29 and single, stands 5 feet 8, weighs 130 pounds, wears size 10 clothes, likes pants.

She attended Grinnell College in Iowa, dropped out in her junior year to go to work, finished college at Roosevelt in her native Chicago.

She has a brother, Harvey Jr., 27, a Navy vet enrolled in Chicago State College. Their parents are Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Clark Sr., (Johnetta). Dad is a salesman. Mother is a teacher.

Baby notes—The infant baptized before the standing room only Homecoming Sunday congregation at St. James' Episcopal Church is a true child of the church.

She is Jocelyn Marie Datcher, born Aug. 6, 1972, to Mr. and Mrs. John Adrian Datcher Jr. (Maxine Cole).

Baby's father grew up in the church, served on the altar.

The senior Datchers are also active members. Dad is on the associate vestry.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. DeCosta Jr. (Senora Reckling), named baby No. 3, John Wesley DeCosta. Infant arrived August 26.

Happy about it all are the other little DeCostas, Frank A., 3rd, 9; and Senora, 4. Dad is on Vice President Agnew's staff.

Sunshine, please, to Provident Hospital for Mrs. Mabel (Pinchie) Denkins, who has been in for two weeks. And, in an adjoining room to her mother, Mrs. Julia Fortune.

Thinking-of-you cards to Good Samaritan Hospital for Vivian Garnett Batistie. She's been ailing for 5 years.

Pleasant people met on Sunday at Coppin State College when that college opened unique month-long celebration of the AFRO's 80th birthday: Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh Jackson Sr. (Mary) of 3940 Boaine St., NE, Washington.

They're parents of the junior Mr. Jackson, the energetic public relations man at Coppin whose staff arranged the birthday exhibit.

Proof that the Jacksons believe in family togetherness: The senior Jacksons and a family friend, Mrs. Ruth Dial, and the junior Mrs. Jackson (Marsha), prepared a table of lovely delicacies for the event.

They were just beautiful, the tasty, colorful sandwiches, the cakes and the huge birthday cake enscribed, "happy 80th birthday to the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN."

Thoughtful, too, the note of welcome which greeted guests.

It said:

"Welcome to Coppin's celebration in honor of the 80th anniversary of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers. We feel that Coppin and the AFRO-AMERICAN "grew up" together.

"The Murphys of Baltimore are fifth-generation managers of the newspaper chain which was founded 80 years ago (August 13, 1892). by John H. Murphy Sr. Mr. Murphy, who served in the Union Army during the Civil War, was a scholar, a civil rights pioneer, and a worker for the common man. The newspaper, from its beginning, reflects these qualities.

MRS. MOSS

"And in all its years, the AFRO-AMERICAN newspapers have never missed an issue or a payroll.

"Coppin State College is a little younger. We opened in 1900, sharing facilities with a high school on Pennsylvania Avenue. In 1952, we moved to our present site, a 20-acre campus on North Avenue. To date we have graduated more than 3,000 students.

"We are honored to have you here today. Please take your time and look at the display of early newspapers, pictures, etc. And while you're on our campus, please notice how Coppin is growing!

"Stay awhile. . .talk with our friends. . .and have some punch and cake.

"Again—thank you for coming."

Cuff note: Small world: In charge of Coppin library where the AFRO exhibit may be seen all this month is Mrs. Hilda Clark, wife of football great, now teacher, Pinky Clark.

Vacation note: The Walter Carrs (Hannah) write of the beauties of Hawaii.

Mrs. Eliza McDaniel, retired Baltimore County teacher, postcards from West Africa.

Fashion show note: Pauline Brooks models - both male and female - put on a delightful show on Saturday at Douglas Memorial Church.

The luncheon-dance was sponsored by the church's W.A.N.A. (We Are Not Alone) club, headed by Mrs. Mamie Jones. Other officers: Mrs. Naomi Nash, vice; Loreda Ward, secretary; Marie DeMines, assistant; Mary Reed, treasurer; Marion Fooks, treasurer; Muriel Fulton, recorder.

Models were Donald Clapp, Anthony Dease, Renee Brown, Joan Gaither, Shirley Harris, Edith Harrison, Kathy Stifford, Ella Talley, Carolyn Wainwright, Penyo Wiggins, and Mrs. Lutherine Bascom, wife of the Douglas pastor.

Good News: Army Maj. R. S. Peters, son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Peters of Salisbury, Md., a 1959 graduate of Morgan State College, has arrived at the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Va. to begin studies with the school's 32nd class.

Maj. Peters entered the Army in 1960 and holds the Meritorious Service Medal, the Bronze Star Medal, two awards of the Air Medal and the Vietnamese Armed Forces Honor Medal. He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

His wife, Mrs. Barbara Peters, is with him in Norfolk.

Police Major Speaks To The People

Dos And Don'ts For Children

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).

FOR CHILDREN: DO tell your parents, teacher, or police officer when a stranger loiters near any place where children gather or play. . .or if a stranger approaches you in the movies to talk to you or touch you.

DO write down license numbers of cars when strangers drive up and ask you to disobey what your parents tell you.

DO take a friend with you when you go to stores, schools, movies and playgrounds.

DO remember that the police officer is your friend.

DON'TS: DON'T ride with strangers.

DON'T take gifts from strangers.

DON'T hesitate to scream if you need help.

DON'T get in a stranger's car when he asks for directions or offers candy or money.

DON'T play in alleys or in isolated play areas.

REMINDER: Remember, the Baltimore Police Department has a Block Parent Plan with at least one home in e[illegible]ea block displaying a big "Red [illegible] sign.

This sig[illegible] a home window means that protection and responsible assistance in any emergency is available at that home for any child in need of help.

Remember, too, that children should go to these homes only in cases of emergency—such as alarming strangers, accident or sudden illness, bullies or vicious dogs.

LETTERS: A letter about barking dogs, in the 2300 block Druid Hill Ave. and 2300 block McCulloh Street.

TO THE WRITER: I have sent an officer to the above locations to advise owners of the Baltimore City Code, Article 19, Section 23, 23, entitled, "Dogs, Disturbing the Peace."

It is unlawful to own, keep or have in possession any dog which in any manner disturbs the quiet of any person or neighborhood. Penalty, fine $5 to $50, or to deliver up the offending dog to be killed; or permanently remove the dog from the neighborhood; or, in the discretion of the justice, fined and required to remove the dog or deliver it up to be killed.

MAJ. JAMES H. WATKINS

Arrest can only be made upon a warrant. Original sworn complaint must be made in such a case by at least four persons of different households.

On such complaint, if it is the first complaint, the justice is required to give notice, through the police department, to the person having the dog in his possession, to prevent the dog making any further disturbances.

If the disturbance continues or there be occasion for a second sworn complaint, such second complaint must be made to a station-house justice as in the first instance by at least four persons of different households, whereupon the justice may issue his warrant for the arrest of the said keeper of the offending dog, and on conviction, apply the penalty as above.

No complaint is a "second" complaint unless another has been made within 60 days prior thereto.

(If you have questions, write Major Watkins, c-o AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203).

It's NOT A Man's World

Rights Laws Clarifying

By BERNICE S. WHITE

One of the primary objections to the Equal Rights Amendment cited by opponents is that it would weaken man's obligation to support the family and therefore weaken the family.

They state that under present law men are required to support their wives without regard to their wive's ability to support themselves, and that such laws would be invalidated under the Equal Rights Amendment.

They claim that alimony laws not permitting alimony would also be outlawed and that men who were paying alimony under such laws would be able to come into court and seek relief from paying it

These objections are based largely on erroneous assumptions about application and enforcement of support laws and lack of knowledge of the legislative history of the ERA.

The rights to support of women and children are much more limited than is generally known and enforcement is very inadequate. A married woman living with her husband can in practice get only what he chooses to give her.

The legal obligation to support can generally be enforced only through action for separation or divorce, and

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data available indicates that in practically all cases the wife's ability to support herself is a determining factor in the amount of alimony.

Additional data show that alimony is granted in only a very small percentage of cases; and that fathers, by and large, are contributing less than half the support of the children in divided families; and very importantly, that alimony and child support awards are very difficult to collect.

In general, the opponents are not deliberately misleading the public. They are providing well for their families and they feel that others are as required by law.

Many are upper middle class and acquainted with the facts of life of those in that bracket, where very generous property, alimony, and child support settlements are made.

However, where the divorce results in economic hardship, the wife and children suffer more than the husband.

Cases reviewed and other materials leave the impression that in the middle and lower income groups the welfare of the husband and his prospects for remarriage are given much greater weight than the wife's and children's welfare.

No weight whatsoever is given to the adverse effect on the wife's chances for remarriage when she is left the major responsibility for support of the children.

The prevalence of mistaken ideas about a husband's responsibility for support of wife and children, which have been reinforced by opponents of the ERA, are a great disservice to the nation, particularly to its women and young girls.

Many young women, relying on the belief that marriage means financial security, do not prepare themselves vocationally.

Parents and counselors act on this false assumption in advising girls about their future.

The lack of reliable information illustrates once again that we will not have a whole society equally concerned with women's and children's welfare until more women are in positions to influence the spending of research funds and the making and enforcing of laws.

(The material used in the above column was digested from a report of the Citizen's Advisory Council on the Status of Women, Washington, D.C.)

One For The AFRO

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Just about anything you need.
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A Column of CHOICE

No Orders In Order

By MARION BANFIELD

"I'm staying with my husband just because of the children," is a poor excuse for remaining in the same house with a man. It is easier to let the children bear the burden of a cruel life than to honestly examine one's own personal reasons.

This is the kind of problem that social workers in Family and Children's Society meet every day.

What our clients fail to understand is that the social worker isn't in a position to direct any person's life.

A professional social worker has the responsibility of talking with people to help them take time to think through a variety of ways of dealing with personal problems.

Often, clients are disappointed because a Family and Children's Society social worker will not give orders.

Our job is not to give orders. Our responsibility is to stimulate thinking for new and satisfying methods of how people live and work together.

A good social worker takes pride in seeing clients face reality, stop kidding themselves and make a decision to try a new approach to an old, old problem.

A wife has many reasons for staying with a drinking, beating, husband. What she needs to do is to search for her reasons so that she can honestly know what she is doing.

When a woman enjoys being a martyr and believes that "men are really not much good anyway," that kind of thinking can bring out the worst of any man.

Some of us have a habit of acting in a way that brings trouble on our heads. There are women whose mothers before them really never liked men and so expected mostly bad from any male.

MRS. BANFIELD

Such women are certainly not inspiring wives. These women, unconsciously, know how to pick a husband who has the possibility of being a cruel man.

He likes to beat. She likes to be beaten. The children grow up thinking that's what marriage is all about.

Children from such homes often are behavior problems in school. They believe that physical attacks are the main way of solving problems of relationships.

They believe that fighting is the way to be recognized as a person.

These examples are not the whole story of why women and men choose to stay with each other and spend years trying to force partners into an unreachable goal of change or submission.

Husband and wife relationships are much too complicated by feelings, by economic and social pressures for any one writing to give more than a very brief discussion.

As human relationships are becoming more clearly recognized as a part of life which needs more attention, more of us will be involved in talking about problems.

As we talk about problems we will have the choice of being more realistic in our expectations of each other.