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.

Inventory Time

In this first week of the new year, the AFRO suggests its readers might like to try a new type approach in planning their lives.

Businessmen take annual and periodic surveys of their goods, materials and other assets on hand and use their findings to plan for the next business period.

Instead of making New Year's resolutions, AFRO readers might enjoy taking an inventory or survey of their traits, attitudes and interests with a view to using their findings to produce an orderly and successful year.

Naturally, inventories make one think of finance, material holdings and incomes. That should be included, of course, but your real big moment will come in making an inventory of your ethical and spiritual assets, your personal contacts and activities.

Here is the hard job. Many of us find it easy to face the realities of our financial status, but would squirm before taking stock of our consciences, our hearts, minds, and souls.

It is even easy to pass on the actions of friends and acquaintances, but few of us can summon our own selves up before the light of our own scrutiny.

A SELF TEST

If you doubt this, take down a pencil and answer the following questions about yourself:

1. Am I straight and honest in all my dealings?
2. Am I doing things of which I would be ashamed for those who trust me to know?
3. Do I have thoughts about others which, if they had about me, would be regarded selfish, narrow and mean?
4. Do I apply the principle of the Golden Rule alike to my friends, competitors, rivals and close associates?

A courageous answer to these and similar questions will show you whether you are in the red or in black, morally and spiritually. For real success in 1973, this knowledge will be as important as the check on your financial assets and liabilities.

The only place you can experience real happiness is within the conscience. If things are not square there, no smiles, no pretense, no show of bravado or self-pity will make the new year a profitable one to YOU.

HEALTH, TOO

When you have written off your moral liabilities and can start off with a clean conscience, the next item to tackle will be your physical assets and liabilities.

Here frank and honest appraisement is also essential. Your doctor can help you set down your health status, but you probably have information of your own which will give you a fair idea.

The questions you will want to answer about yourself will be: How much physical energy will I have to spend in 1973? Can I with reasonable accuracy be assured that I will be able to work, sleep and recreate in accordance with my budgeted hours each day?

Like an automobile or any other machine, you may have to check up, make minor repairs, or even completely overhaul your physical equipment. But you are not prepared to face the new year until this is done, for physical bankruptcy may be much more fatal than financial, or even moral bankruptcy.

Of one thing you can be sure: You cannot overspend your physical energy without coming out in the red at the end of the year.

It is one of the every-day experiences of life to find people who take proper care of their autos, their sewing machines or radios, send their own valuable physical equipment to the scrap pile long before it would normally wear out.

BUDGET RECREATION

It is just as important to apply high intelligence, good judgment and definite budgeting to the fun you have, the hobbies you like, the cultural activities in which you engage, and even to your religious fervor, as to financial and physical matters.

You are fortunate if you have been able to divide your day into three eight-hour periods-for-work, sleep, and recreation. But unless your recreation is divided properly, you may still come out in the red for 1973.

The question here is, does the fun you have recre-ate or does it tear down and wear out? Does it provide happiness and real emotional exaltation, or are you merely following the crowd into make-believe happiness?

Do you divide the eight hours into getting proper exercise, reading proper books and periodicals, enjoying music and other expressive arts and pleasant intercourse with enjoyable friends?

The AFRO hopes that it has developed the emphasis this editorial is intended to give. This new year week is a good time to take stock, readjust your life, and start out on a plan for the next twelve months.

There is no situation you face that would not be helped by the application of planning. Clear the cobwebs, if any, from your conscience; get a grasp on yourself that will improve your chances in the year 1973.

Roberto Clemente

In Cooperstown, N.Y., the board of directors of baseball's Hall of Fame waived the rule requiring a five-year wait for the enshrinement of nominees, and Baseball Writers chairman Jack Lang predicted unanimous approval of the election of the late Roberto Clemente.

In Washington, President Nixon summoned representatives of the Pittsburgh Pirates to the White House and personally spearheaded a relief program for earthquake victims in Nicaragua in Clemente's name.

In Pittsburgh, the chairman of the Three Rivers Stadium Authority pledged his support of a move change the name of the field Roberto Clemente Stadium.

And in New York City, eucharist mass was sung in Clemente's memory to a capacity crowd at the prestigious St. Patrick's Cathedral.

All these things happened on the same day — Wednesday — three days after the famed baseball star plunged to his death in a plane that his efforts had loaded with supplies for the destitute and homeless in the quake-stricken country.

Those of us who live can accept the varied and unique tributes to the great athlete-humanitarian. But we are sure that Clemente would have been deeply touched if all or any of these gestures had been made while he was alive.

We must be convinced that this beautiful and sensitive black man was no less great in life than he is in death. And who can say that "flowers" after death can truly be enjoyed by the dead?

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

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 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 injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR.
December 25, 1920

'Taking Inventory Is A Good Idea'

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

Readers are invited to submit letters for publication. All letters must be signed, but signature will be omitted if requested. Letters should be more than 300 words in length. Address them to "Our Readers Say," Baltimore, AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

No Coppin Coffin

Dear AFRO:

Fortunately, the letter to the AFRO dated December 30, 1972 entitled "An Attempt to Drive Nails in Coppin's Coffin" suggested a solution to the problem that was cited. Much progress has been made during recent years to eliminate the notion that black is necessarily inferior.

That notion has been replaced by the notion that black is beautiful, and potentially magnificent.

The new notion is based on new perception and reinterpretation of Black History, plus the outstanding performance of black people and black institutions on the contemporary scene.

Now, the standards are well-known by which the performance and the status of educational institutions are determined.

In responding to questions as to whether or not Coppin is inferior (if it is necessary to respond to such questions), all that someone who can speak officially for the college has to do is to put the facts on the table.

Such facts will reveal that, overall, the college compares favorably with established performance standards. Though, there are grounds for improvement in some areas.

An institution that is maintaining the minimum standards of performance, and is keeping the facts and the records straight on such performance, does not have to worry about "attempts to drive nails in its coffin."

In fact, its coffin does not exist, because that institution's life is assured and will live forever.

Rather, the problem is this: though black is beautiful, and though the overall performance records of most black institutions are good, there are purveyors of inferiority among us. The most harmful ones are disguised, they bear uninformed opinions and no facts, and they speak with fork tongues.

The purveyors of inferiority must be identified by a system of accountability that will compare their deeds with their words, and their performance with their pronouncements.

Black is beautiful today because it is associated with productivity and performance, intelligence and integrity, morality and justice.

These are the values and principles on which an institution stands that will never die. Hence, Coppin needs no coffin and — no purveyors of inferiority.

GREGORY KEITH YOUNG
(Genuinely black)

Warm Inspiration

Dear AFRO:

I would like to share with you a very warm and inspiring letter I received during the Christmas holidays, from a co-worker, Miss Armita Dixon, executive secretary to Clayton Tucker, director, Self-Help Housing Inc., 329 E. North Ave.

I have only briefly come in contact with Armita during meetings and job celebrations, because I work out of the Westside office.

At the time I received the letter I was feeling a little low in spirit. I had been out sick and so I was not able to carry out things as I had previously planned.

I knew Miss Dixon to be very talented in writing poetry, because she submitted a poem for my church magazine, "The Voice of the Jesus Associates," 3308 Arydale Ave.

I have not taken time to tell her how her letter has spiritually strengthened and encouraged me, so I just want to say at this time, "A new year has begun and thank you Armita for your new friendship."

Fellow employees should work together in love, unity and understanding.

The letter I received from Armita is as follows:

"Barbara, I could never believe the day would dawn when I would have the unique opportunity to become acquainted with a truly free and loving spirit.

"You my friend, have been blessed with a personality and character that is truly unbelievable and God in his infinite wisdom surely chose the perfect vehicle for its carriage.

"If, during the course of your daily life you have occasion to meet persons who don't seem to understand and appreciate you, don't let it frustrate your natural sense of flexibility and good humor, for these persons, for these persons cannot appreciate the finer things in life.

"Be careful, be happy, continue to be." Armita.

BARBARA MORTON

Western High

Dear AFRO:

The recent incident at Western High School has again caused an outcry for the arming of school guards. Some more volatile spokesmen are even calling for the use of armed police in the school.

I think it is sad that fear has captured the public and some of our leaders as well, that a freak isolated incident can elicit such unreasoned response.

A situation which was in no way related to or reflective of the situation in our schools, is being interpreted as indicative of the disintegration of the system. Because the event occurred in a school, all students are being discredited.

The solution being called for is one which will truly endanger the lives of those who enter our school buildings.

The presence of armed guards in our schools constitutes such a threat to our basic freedom that I feel compelled to raise my voice in opposition to those who are using this as another excuse to move toward an armed society.

Not all of our community has lost its bearing. There are many, not necessarily the most outspoken, but nevertheless, equally determined, to protect the freedom guaranteed to us.

To us, the very meaning of this nation is entwined in the right to an education without the presence of a gun nozzle, for whatever excuse that gun is introduced.

VERDA F. WELCOME
(State Senator (D., 4th.)

New Church

Dear AFRO:

We the pastor, officers and members of Mt. Moriah AME Church invite you to attend our opening service to be held on January 13, 11 a.m. at the (New) Mt. Moriah AME Church located at Forest Hills and Bay Ridge Avenue, Annapolis.

We hope and pray that God will keep this notice in your mind and you will plan to worship with us. The guest speaker will be the Rev. W. L. Hilderbrand, Bethel AME Church, Baltimore.

NORMAN RANDALL, Co-Chairman
Public Relations Committee
MRS. MARY QUEEN, Co-Chairman
Public Relations Committee
REV. WESLEY B. NASH, Pastor

Mr. Truman

Dear AFRO:

Give 'em hell, Harry is in heaven ...

ELISSA WARD JOHNSON

A little About A LOT

January First, Emancipation Day

By MADELINE W. MURPHY

January 1, 1863, marks the day that President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation went into effect.

I wonder if all the people partying, standing in Times Square, listening to Guy Lombardo New Year's Eve, realized that they were really celebrating the eve of the emancipation of the slaves.

As blacks celebrating the New Year, how novel it would be if we turned the meaning of January 1, around for our benefit, and did something especially spectacular on that day, like holding a work strike.

For instance, every black man and woman would stop all kinds of work (some of us still work on "holidays") — on that day we would not drive a bus, empty a bed pan, push a broom, or do anything except spend the day as a group, redirecting our lives toward total emancipation of black people in these United States.

Then on Martin Luther King's birthday, January 15, hold an all day work conference dealing with the strategy of fulfilling this goal.

On the anniversaries of the assassinations of MLK, of Malcolm, we would redefine our goals, evaluate our progress, and escalate our actions.

With the ruthlessness of the Nixon administration with budget cutting, defiance of Congress, broken promises, the killings in Vietnam, perhaps the ole' black work ethic ought to take a holiday, so that our voices will be heard where it hurts, no more service, no more money.

Gov. Marvin Mandel needs this kind of pressure as he flaunts his contempt for the 1954 Supreme Court decision. He now lends his divisive voice to pit white against black in defiance of Judge Kaufman's decision in the Prince George's County school busing case.

About Cable TV: In the latest development in Cable TV, the Ethics Commission of the State of Maryland cannot overlook the fact that there are three educators in question. Dr. Fisher of Towson State, Dr. Cheek of Morgan State, Dr. Sensenbaugh of the State Dept. of Education, will have difficulty avoiding a conflict of interest as members of a CATV board seeking a franchise.

As shareholders on that board, they must make decisions which are in the interests of the company and [illegible] for the company. As educators, they must not only evaluate the media so that it provides needed services in the interests of the subscribers, but also they must keep their institutions free from any hint of exploitation, opportunism or compromise.

When these goals come into conflict, one wonders how they can resist the acceptable profit motive, normal to a capitalistic society.

It would be much better if like Caesar's wife, they would remain beyond reproach, and if they would relinquish their seats to community people who would be subscribers.

All the while they could be developing workshops, not like the one at Morgan in October and would be providing follow-up conferences to devise ways and means of including and educating a broader cross section of the public being served.

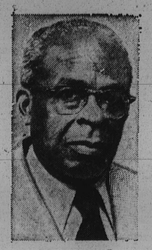
Otherwise, it may be that like New York's CATV, billions of dollars will be lost because the public, will not be prepared for such an expensive venture or will not be educated nor involved in the benefits of a cable television network.

Subscribers will naturally be wary of a corporation that does not include and involve the community; likewise, a corporation is doomed when amidst hints of conflict of interest, it will not voluntarily involve the public.

NOW and THEN

New Year's Resolutions For A City

By G. JAMES FLEMING



DR. FLEMING

Suppose a city could make resolutions or make promises, or make pledges, what would our city—Baltimore in this case—have resolved for 1973?

Or, what would you, and you, and you wish for your city? OR pray for your city?

If you preside over City Hall, you would probably wish for adequate monies—local taxes and grants from the state and nation. And you would resolve to spend each tax dollar wisely, providing the most good for the most people.

We are sure Baltimore's Mayor William Donald Schaefer also has a few more resolutions.

If you are a taxpayer, you would resolve to do everything possible to keep taxes DOWN, especially if you are just an ordinary householder, carrying a great bulk of the tax burden.

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A school superintendent, such as Dr. Roland Patterson, must have been holding a wishbone, both resolving and wishing, that 1973 will be a turning point, for the better, in his management of the public schools: That he will get more cooperation from the unions, more cooperation and effectiveness from teachers and staff, and more fiscal support from the City Council.

If Dr. Patterson is a praying man, he might have been on his knees at midnight, imploring his Maker to protect him both from some of his friends and from those enemies who have pledged to make a "bust" of his efforts to give Baltimore an A-1 public school system.

David T. Mason, new state secretary of employment and social services, certainly made a resolution to give such leadership to the state's welfare program that the several Baltimore City welfare organizations will not have a leg to stand on as they attempt their usual "confrontations" and "demands."

The "Welfare Mothers" and other Baltimore "soul" organizations might also have pledged to give Mr. Mason a "break" in his "breakthrough" position as head of all social welfare programs in the state and a member of the Governor's cabinet.

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Many thousands of families must have prayed that they might go through 1973 without having any griefs, brought on by children who have turned to drugs or to crime, or who fall victims to crime.

Congressman Parren Mitchell must have made a wish that the thousands who vote for him, and shout for him, will also support his campaign against "blacks-killing-blacks"—especially those weekend exercises in self-genocide.

Turning again to the schools, there should be no one who did not raise a prayer for help on keeping death by gun and knife out of the city's high schools, as so many adolescents "imitate" their elders.

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Both the officers of the NAACP and the general public should have resolved to make the organization—locally and nationally—larger and stronger, with the funds needed to support the ongoing battle for life, liberty and the pursuit of first class citizenship.

Count this writer in among the tens of thousands who enjoyed the Mayor's Open Air Concerts last summer on the Federal Plaza and who pray they will be continued, both for their musical excellence and diversion, and for their catalytic value in bringing Baltimoreans together.

Some black Baltimore businesses made a resolution, we hope, to help underwrite these concerts, thus joining other business concerns as sponsors (Wish we dared to call names and suggest some black concerns which should be able to help).

Perhaps, the most important for the city is that it will be able to energize the jobs that will wipe out the unemployment that still exists. We mean real jobs, demanding, satisfying and reasonably well-paying.

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Just as last year, friends and supporters of City Solicitor George L. Russell hope the New Year will bring him a judgeship on one of the courts of appeals—preferably the Court of Appeals. There is also the hope that his powerful contacts won't "do him in" and leave him holding the bag.

Black legislators, city, state and national, might well have pledged themselves to have more to show in 1973, than they have had in the recent past, for their membership in city councils, state bodies and the Congress.

Their constituents need more than rhetoric!

Millions of people must be praying that Thurgood Marshall, associate justice of the Supreme Court, will have good health and long life, in order that he may not soon have to leave the Court.

Wherever black people are, resolutions are needed that more of their young men and women will enter economic life—from providing services to manufacture—in order to give the race a more diversified involvement in the society.

There is more room for selling as well as buying; for being employer as well as employee; for earning profits and dividends as well as providing them and for opening businesses as well as closing them.

This column's resolution: To be better in 1973—chatting, conversing, revealing, pointing out, needling, agreeing and disagreeing, promoting; sometimes admitting errors. Happy New Year!

It's NOT A Man's World

Koontz Firing Reaction

By BERNICE S. WHITE

MRS WHITE

On December 12, 1972, the forced resignation of Elizabeth Duncah Koontz, Director of the Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor (and nominal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor) was accepted by President Nixon. In short she was fired. Elizabeth Koontz has been our only "official" voice by, and for women in the executive branch of government.

She has united women of all "classes, races, and political persuasion." Apparently such a voice, however singular, is to be silenced for now.

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On December 13, 1972, Wilma Scott Heide, president of the National Organization for Women, sent the following telegram to Mr. Nixon: "Firing Elizabeth Koontz insults all women: Man's inhumanity to woman. Pathological white patriarchy strikes again."

Ms. Heide is urging every woman to protest strongly the Nixon administration's insensitivity and misogyny.

Ms. Heide said "If you are still Republican, indicate that. Other actions will be taken by NOW and by I predict, millions of others whom we can reach. I predict that this grievous action by Nixon administration may ultimately serve to further unite and radicalize us to effect an unequivocal feminist-humanist society that a human world requires."

She further urges women to send copies of their communications to Mrs. Koontz, to members of Congress, and to the news media in your area.

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Bits and Pieces: As a result of the November elections, 14 women will occupy seats in the House. However, the only seat held by a woman in the Senate was lost when Margaret Chase Smith (Maine) was not a candidate for selection.

Of the 10 former incumbents in the House, nine were reelected and one was defeated.

Five women, two of whom are black, are newly elected: Yvonne Brathwaite Burke (California), Patricia Schroeder (Colorado), Marjorie S. Holt (Maryland), Elizabeth Holtzman (New York), and Barbara C. Jordank(Texas).

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About 400 women will be serving in State legislatures, according to estimates by the National Women's Political Caucus. The Women's Bureau count of women in the previous State legislatures was 342.

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The Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is moving closer to ratification by the necessary 38 States.

It had been ratified by 22 States as of December 1.

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The list of individual States with their own Equal Rights Amendment is growing, though slowly.

Ten States now have State Equal Rights Amendment: Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Maryland, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wyoming.

WASHINGTON REPORT

Martin Luther King Jr. Was In The Capitol

By PARREN J. MITCHELL
(D-7TH DISTRICT-MARYLAND)
House of Representatives

The Democratic Caucus of the House of Representatives met on January 2, 1973, to elect a Chairman; the Speaker, Majority Leader and Democratic Whip. In addition, the Caucus proposed rules for the 93rd Congress; designated a member to serve on the Democratic National Committee and took up the thorny issue of the Vietnam war.

The interests of Black Americans were involved in all of these actions.

Although there was unspoken agreement that Carl Albert (D-Oklahoma) would be re-elected Speaker, John Conyers, a Black Congressman from Michigan was also an announced candidate for the Speakers position.

John had asked me and Congressmen Helstoski, Dellums and Drinan to make nominating and seconding speeches on behalf of his candidacy. I was honored and pleased to do so.

In my speech, I had an opportunity to talk about the resurgence of racism in America and how Congressman Conyer's selection could help blunt that resurgence. I talked about the true meaning of democracy and how, if we really believed in it, a Black man could be elected Speaker or Vice President or President.

John Conyer's loss by a margin of almost ten to one. However, during the debate, America's highest legislative body had to face the issue of racism, and its own inflexibility in the leadership selection process.

The second relevent issue was the debate on ending the war.

This debate developed around a resolution of the Democratic Study Group and sponsored by Congressman Nedzi (D-Mich.), the net effect of the amendment was summed up in the last paragraph of the Resolution:

It was resolved that the Democratic Members of the House of Representatives hereby declare it to be Democratic policy in the 93rd Congress that no further public funds be authorized, appropriated or expended for U.S. military combat operations in or over Indochina, and that such operations be terminated immediately.

Time for debate on the Resolution was limited and therefore a limitation was placed on the number of persons who could speak.

I was the only Black member of the House who spoke on the DSG-Nedzi Resolution.

As I addressed the Caucus, I thought about Martin Luther King, Jr. It was he who pointed to the fact that lives of Black Americans are clearly affected by America's international policies.

He pointed out that wars against people who seek self-determination reflect this Nation's unwillingness to let Black American's shape their own destiny.

It was King who pointed out that America's neo-colonial policies abroad mirrored and shaped America's internal colonial attitude.

It was King who recognized that in foreign trade, in foreign military support and in foreign economic development, America has done less for people of color around the world. Was there a Marshall Plan for Biafra, Nigeria and Kenya? Was there an alliance for progress for African Nations?

The DSG-Nedzi Resolution, though weakened by one amendment, passed 154 to 75. Now the fight moves out of the Democratic Caucus to the House of Representatives. I shall be part of the fight to end the war. As we fight, I shall think about Martin Luther King, Jr. who knew that international racism impacts on every nook and cranny of the Black ghetto.

What the AFRO Stands For

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

Adequate black representation on all public boards and commissions of Maryland cities, counties and the state itself, including colleges and universities.

Extensive and meaningful black political power.

Equal job opportunities in fact as well as theory.

Equal housing opportunities in fact as well as theory.

Black judges on all benches of the city, county and state court systems, except those constitutionally authorized.

A black owned and operated taxicab company.

A black owned and operated bank.

A black majority on Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners.

A Column Of CHOICE

They Did It Without GUNS

By MARION BANFIELD

MRS. BANFIELD

In the December 22nd edition of the Evening Sun, Dr. E. Wayman Scott, member of the Board of School Commissioners, was quoted by Sue Miller as to why he was one of two members to vote for arming school security officers.

Dr. Scott said, "Unless we solve our discipline problems, schools will become all black, and once the system is all black, the white community won't support it. If arming security officers brings about an improvement, then I'm inclined to vote for arms."

Dr. Scott's last sentence is the one with which I have strong disagreement.

The large display of weapons taken from students proves that the security officers have removed dangerous weapons from students without guns.

I fail to see what arming of security officers has to do with solving discipline problems.

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There are serious discipline problems in the schools. Commissioner Kalman Hettleman chaired a community-wide meeting on discipline which was attended by about 300 persons. The meeting was well-planned and well executed.

There remains the well-known Baltimore problem. There was one meeting, many participants requested a follow-up session. No follow-up session has occurred.

In thinking about discipline, we have to remember some facts.

Much of the tension in classrooms is due to student lack of basic good manners to adults and to each other. Students are rude and boisterous in class.

Some teachers are fortunate enough to have human behavior know-how plus lessons which prevent the nerve wracking ill manners of some of our youngsters.

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Subject matter is "irrelevant" to some youngsters because teachers are too unsophisticated in ways of making it relevant. Some teachers are too hostile to the "noisy brats" to bother trying to be relevant.

Some teachers feel that their students are too ignorant and ill-mannered to be able to learn. Since all teachers get paid, regardless of their classroom failures they don't worry.

Some of the curriculum is irrelevant for many of our students. Thousands of students have never understood why they had to struggle with algebra, geometry, foreign language and ancient history.

There are teachers who love Shakespeare and bring the beauty and intrigue alive in the classroom.

Other teachers can't see the relevancy of A Tale of Two Cities, the Black Panthers and guerrilla warfare.

Our young people have their own cult of defiance. Defiance is stylish in relationship to parents, to teachers, to police, to any source of authority other than their peers.

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Along with this defiance is a concentration on pleasure. That pleasure is the candle for drugs, for dare-devil stealing, for irresponsible sexual involvement, for expensive mod clothes, for nightly parties, for rejection of personal responsibility for behavior.

This defiance of cultural standards rejects the reality of preparation for survival.

To fill the gap for preparation for survival there are strongly disciplined groups reaching out to keep our children from more self-destruction.

The Muslims, Jehovah Witnesses, and Seventh-Day Adventists are part of response for an inner urge for control.

Rap sessions on identity, formal or informal rituals and expressions of concern with Africa are new methods of our young people dealing with American reality and racism.

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None of the above problems needs guns.

What Baltimore needs is for the Board of Commissioners and the Department of Education to get a series of meetings with broad student, teacher, and community participation to continue discussing problems of discipline.

Students are intelligent and willing to talk about the subject. Parents, teachers and students, and the rest of us need to take responsibility for making school buildings more geared to the learning process.

Our choice is to let security officers portray our children as dangerous young criminals or to get the schools active support for standards of behavior where learning can become more effective.

Hints For Long Living

Sula Benet is professor of anthropology at Hunter College in New York City asks: "Can Americans learn something from the Abkhasian view of 'long living' people?"

Abkhasian is the renowned Soviet republic at the eastern end of the Black Sea where "they live to be 100, or even older."

Here is Miss Benet's explanations for such longevity.

1. "Although they are the main suppliers of tobacco for the Soviet Union, few Abkhasians smoke. They drink neither coffee nor tea. But everyone drinks a locally produced, dry, red wine of low alcoholic content."

2. "Absent from their diet is sugar; honey, a local product, is used; toothaches are rare."

3. "They eat relatively little meat; and when they do it is always broiled or boiled to the absolute minimum. They do not like fish and, despite its availability, rarely eat it."

4. "The Abkhasians eat without haste, take only small bites of food, and chew those very slowly—a habit insuring proper digestion of the carbohydrates which form the bulk of the diet."

5. "Buttermilk and pickled vegetables, and probably the wine, help destroy certain bacteria and, indirectly, prevent the development of arteriosclerosis. Very little saturated fat and a great deal of fruit and vegetables also account for their markedly better hearing."

6. "Abkhasians are hospitalized rarely, except for stomach disorders and childbirth. They are expert at setting broken arms and legs themselves—their centuries of horsemanship have given them both the need and the practice."

After stating that "there really should no longer be any question about their longevity," and then documenting an unusual percentage of persons over 90, with "no reported cases of either mental illness or cancer" in a study of centenarians, and generally good eyesight and presence of natural teeth, Miss Benet answers her own question about whether we can learn from the long-living Abkhasians by saying bluntly: "I think so."

Afro Line

AFRO LINE IS AN AFRO community service to help you solve problems, whatever they may be. All you have to do is write a postcard to AFRO LINE, AFRO, 628 N. Eutaw St., P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203. In addition to stating the question you want answered, include your name, address and phone number. Then watch for the answer in the AFRO LINE each week because that is where the Action can be found.

OFFICER BLOUNT joins Baltimore police force. Accompanying AFRO Line gives details.

QUESTION — Recently, you ran a page one photo of Morgan Coach Earl Banks and Mrs. Banks and their new policeman son. I understood that in that same graduation class was State Senator Blount's son. Didn't you get a picture of him too?

By the way, I want to congratulate the AFRO for its fine way it has been covering these graduation exercises and the foremer graduations — J. R. S.

ANSWER — Thanks to Reader Smith. Yes, Officer Michael C. Blount is Senator Blount's son. He is shown in accompanying photo receiving graduation certificate from City Solicitor George L. Russell Jr., Commissioner Donald D. Pomerleau looks on."

The new patrolman holds a B.A. degree in political science from Morgan State College. He is also a graduate of Woodbourne Junior High School and City College. The 25-year-old policeman lives in the Village of Purnell in W. Baltimore with his wife, Brenda and infant son, Diamond Christopher Blount.

IN MAILBAG comes this note from a youngster who signs himself, 'Tony Young,' and encloses the accompanying photo. He wrote: I wish my mother, Joyce, a happy New Year.'

Ed.'s Note: AFRO Line does too, Tony. How about writing us and telling us more about you, your mom and what you do in school. Your photo shows you seem to be a bright lad. Let AFRO Line hear more about you.

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QUESTION: I've been locked in Baltimore City Jail where they call me an old man. They are talking about dope in the streets, but it's more dope sold in Baltimore City Jail than in the streets. The guards bring the dope in themselves.

If not, some of the people throw it to them over the fence. I wish something can be done about it. To a certain extent I can name the people. I wish you would put this in the paper. Look out for the guards!

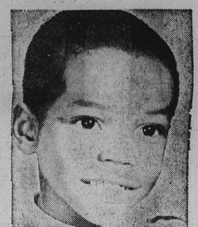
AN OLD MAN

ANSWER: H. Mebane Turner, president of the Jail Board, responded to the above letter saying, "These guys always say that but they never name names. I've heard these stories numerous times. I guess there is some of it going on."

He said, "The majority of the men are in there on dope related crimes so they are always trying ways to get dope in there. And, if any jail personnel is caught doing it, he would be suspended and prosecuted."

Mr. Turner suggested, if anyone wants to name names, to send a letter to him (c-o president's office, University of Baltimore) and sign it. The name of the writer, he promised, would be held in confidence.

But he added inmates would be held liable for printing gross falsehoods in their letters.



TONY YOUNG made request to AFRO Line.

QUESTION: Can a private doctor raise his fee for an office visit?

ANSWER: Internal Revenue says, Yes. A physician may increase his fee for a particular service to reflect an increase in the cost of that service, provided that the increase in the doctor's total annual revenue does not exceed 2.5 per cent, and does not cause the base period profit margin to be exceeded.

QUESTION: I'm hoping that you will be able to help me to get my weapon back from the Police Department.

Very early this year my gun was stolen from my home, on March 8, 1972, the young man was arrested and my hand gun was recovered. Trial was held on Oct. 19, 1972, the person was convicted and sentenced, but I have not received my hand gun yet.

I went to the 'property division' at Central Police Headquarters, they directed me to seek assistance from the arresting officer, Fairbanks, he directed me to the State's Attorney's office, Jerry Richman.

After no success there, I tried Central again and was directed to call the Western District Police Station and try to seek assistance from the other officer, Fromberger, who was also involved in the arrest. I spoke to Officer Kane and asked him to have Officer Fromberger get in touch with me, that was two weeks ago and I have not heard from him or anyone yet.

I am a disabled veteran, I live alone. I work as a night watchman, so you see I need my weapon and I will be most grateful to you if you will help me to recover it.

P. S.

ANSWER: Police Community Relations has been asked to find out why the delay in returning your weapon. You should receive an answer promptly from the office of Major James Watkins. (396-2710).

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QUESTION: I signed a lease on Jan. 1, 1972, and my landlord did not raise rent at all during the year. She now wants to raise rent five per cent next year — twice the automatic 2½ per cent increase allowed under the rent regulations. Can she do this?

ANSWER: Internal Revenue says yes. This automatic 2½ per cent annual increment may be accumulated. This means that if a landlord did not take advantage of it one year, she may use it the following year.