Baltimore Afro-American

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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, (1889-1967) Editor-Publisher, 1922-1967

Cinderella Citizens?

If you were Sammy Davis Jr. or any of a host of other movie and TV celebrities rounded up by the 1973 inauguration committee, you could 'co-star' as President Nixon begins his second term Saturday.

However, if you are just a run-of-the-mill taxpaying citizen, you, like the fabled Cinderella, will be relegated to the sidelines as a spectator witnessing from afar President Nixon's embarking on his "four more years."

Arriving with Davis Wednesday evening at Friendship Airport were numerous other show biz stars on their way to the nation's capital to get the four-day celebration going in style.

Concerts, candlelight dinners, parties, balls and cocktail receptions dot the frantic schedule of social events for several thousand faithful Nixon friends. Despite ticket prices for these festivities ranging from $10 to $1,000, uninvited taxpayers can rest assure they are picking up part of the tab one way or the other.

Wouldn't it be nice if taxpayers could take as much part in inauguration celebrations as the select few who actually taste the fruits of victory? After all, isn't a taxpaying citizen entitled to more for his money than standing out in the cold waiting to get a distant glimpse of the star of the show?

Blood Donors Needed

The local Red Cross is seeking to expand its important voluntary blood donor program to help meet the increased demands for blood components and fractions and to assure the community of a safer and healthier blood supply.

As a goal, the Red Cross is attempting to get 20,000 more volunteer donors over the next 18 months.

John T. Menzies Jr., regional blood program chairman, said that "new developments in blood therapy coupled with community population growth have created new demands for volunteer blood. This stepped-up program" he said, "will help provide for the blood needs for more people and will help eliminate the need for hospitals to purchase blood."

The volunteer blood donor system, which began here in 1958, covers the blood needs of more than one million area persons and last year collected over 45,000 units of blood.

Both individual and group memberships are available. Persons between 18 and 65 in good health may give blood. To enroll or for further information, call Red Cross at 467-9905 and ask for the Blood Program.

Decide today to be a contributor to this crucial community program.

'Point Gets Order

After years of pussyfooting around, the federal government has ordered the Bethlehem Steel Corporation to put an end to employment discrimination.

The key part of the order handed down by outgoing Labor Secretary James D. Hodgson tells the Sparrows Point, Md. plant to change its seniority system so that blacks transferring out of formerly restrictive jobs won't be penalized.

Both the firm and the steelworkers' unions at Sparrows Point had been against company-wide seniority as ordered by the Labor Department.

Although the Labor Department states that the nation's largest steel firm would face loss of millions of dollars worth of federal contracts should it not comply with the order, there is nothing in the shoddy enforcement record of the government to put proper pressure on Bethlehem Steel.

The far-reaching order, based on the 1964 Civil Rights Act, could mean a better deal for minority workers who once were forced to accept the dirtiest and lowest paid steel plant jobs.

It is time Bethlehem Steel accepted the implications of its discriminatory practices of the past and moved, in line with the new order, to make amends. The steelworkers' unions at Bethlehem also should join in now and represent the welfare of all their workers.

Those who have fought for years to bring about Secretary Hodgson's order, are not so naive as to believe all their problems now are over. But they are in a better position to tamper this even terms for any job they can handle.

Joe Perry's Friends

On Monday the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper was visited by a group from the community who protested the headline and story in last Friday's AFRO concerning the death of Joe Perry.

Their complaint was that the newspaper accused Mr. Perry of being involved in criminal activities for which he had not been charged and convicted. They also expressed the view that the story's reference to the areas they questioned were in poor taste at the time of Mr. Perry's death, even if true.

The AFRO agrees with those supporters of Mr. Perry who argue that he had not been convicted of certain criminal activities with which his name may have been linked by police.

Apparently a large number of people who knew Joe Perry thought highly of him and want to remember him for the good things they know about him.

Under the circumstances the AFRO would not consider it either in good taste or in the public interest to engage in the publishing at this point of statements the late Joe Perry's friends might feel would reflect further on his life.

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

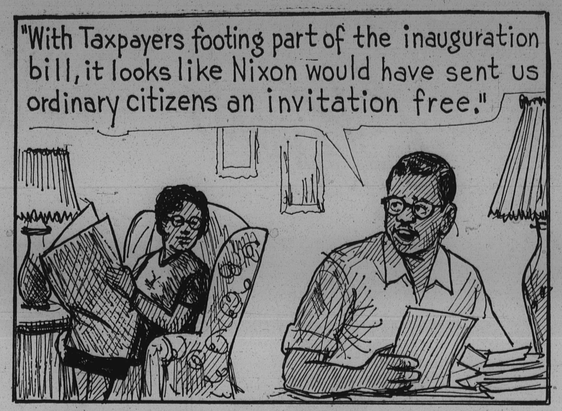
Senseless

Dear AFRO:

The reason our citizens are killing each other is simple—fear, greed, confusion and white-oriented blacks. Fears is caused by oppression by the neo-slave master and the American system.

The facts are simple why we are Super Stupid. We are without understanding, togetherness and truth. We will keep on killing each other.

Our women will continue to seek the love and support of the white men because the brothers who are not dead are in the power of White Power which will eventually have them in prison for life. — Brother John William Robinson, Jessups, Md.



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.

Anti-Semitism Charge

Dear AFRO:

The recent furor surrounding statements made by the Rev. Vernon Dobson, during a memorial ceremony at Morgan College, serves to focus attention upon the ever increasing dilemma between blacks and Jews in America.

I refer to the charge of anti-semitism leveled at Rev. Dobson - charges which totally disregard the dedication, faith, courage and concern exhibited by the minister, in his untiring quest to improve the human condition.

I refer to the charge of anti-semitism leveled at Rev. Dobson - charges which totally disregard the dedication, faith, courage and concern exhibited by the minister, in his untiring quest to improve the human condition.

I suggest that the questions he raised during his speech at Morgan were valid, and, the irrational reaction to his statements served only to strengthen that validity...for we were off and running, on another myopic excursion into divisiveness, via the convenient, mythological "black anti-semitism" routine.

Historically, anti-semitism has been employed as an effective political tool, assuming many faces, dependent solely upon the whim and purpose of the anti-semite. The term is in itself a masterpiece of contradiction: an anti-semite may be opposed to a much larger group than those of Judean faith, which would then envolve racial rather than religious prejudices.

Both religious and racial tactics have been used against world Jewry. Does this infer that every time a criticism is directed toward a Jewish group or individual, it is of anti-semitic origin? I think not. In America, one basic premise of our "Democratic" society continues to survive - freedom of religion.

Black people have greatly participated in the opportunities provided within the arena of religious freedom; recognizing the value of religious expression...we have not denied those privileges to any one.

Also, freedom of religion does not provide special privileges in compensation for past religious persecution - nor does it grant immunity from valid criticism, especially when criticism is employed with a sincere attempt to foster social justice and a better understanding between our communities.

Down through the centuries, our Jewish brothers have endured persecution when economic eruptions occurred within the various societies in which they had prospered, and so doing incurred the wrath and envy of those on a lower level of prosperity. Many times envy slithered up to the higher ranks of these societies, wedging the hapless Jews between two opposing groups . . . against each other, but victimizing him.

Today, the black ghettos of America have erupted..culturally, spiritually and economically; Jews, because they operate within and often condone this system...this social structure which black people find oppressive....again Jews find themselves embroiled between two levels of a society in turmoil - this time, in America.

I suggest that we blacks, in spite of many historical similarities in our relationships with Jews, are not anti-semitic - we are anti-economic injustice and anti everything engendered by this untenable condition.

Further, blacks in America, at this point in time, would react the same even if the visible sources of our frustrations were little green martians - I use the phrase visible sources because, in many ghetto areas, much of the "daily bread" consumer contact with blacks has been and is Jewish.

However, even when polarized confrontation exists, many black people understand that Jews themselves have had to survive within this system under duress. Where this inescapable fact is acknowledged many warm, beautiful relationships exist. The Jew in America has had to assimilate as well as acclimate, in many instances...all too often at the expense of Jewishness.

But, nevertheless, WE are no longer willing to stand idly by while America squats on her fat haunches, greedily sucking OUR blackness through the loooong, skinny white straws of her voracious society.

Therefore, we would hope our Jewish brothers and sisters understand their own role within the context of our changing society. A role which, through they did not intentionally select, exists. After all, Jews did not need a Kerner Report to understand the motivation of the discontent of black people....Jews had a Warsaw.....Why can't our Jewish brothers and sisters understand the outrage of black people? They—who know full well the condemnation of "ghetto"? Because of this knowledge, this ethnic memory, we expect . . . no, demand at the most understanding and, if not sympathy....at the least, empathy.

In closing, I would say to our Jewish brothers and sisters . . . America, to black people, has been the valley of dry bones - WE are yet in the land of the Pharaohs, but this desert of oppression could also bloom like the rose.

Remember, we black people are not your enemy.....neither Pontious Pilate nor Hitler was black! It is often difficult to escape the ravages of our respective trials. We can remain apart, one from the other - and lose an opportunity to challenge history....to reweave the pattern, or, through fruitful dialogue and vigorous application - we can emerge victorious.

If we work together toward the common end - social justice for all, regardless of race, color or religious creed, we will neither of us, be at the mercy of the anti-semite, anti-black or anti-life.....America too, would then be a land of milk and honey.

BEVERLY BRUCE HARVARD

'Disgraceful'

Dear AFRO:

Your headlines dated Jan. 13, 1973, "Joe Perry, Last of the Big Time Pushers," was, in my opinion disgraceful, degrading, and untrue. I thought the AFRO-AMERICAN was truly a black, beautiful and yes, of course, a proud newspaper.

Although it may be true that Mr. Perry had encounters with the law, I feel that the way you printed it was indeed not warranted. I realize you are in the business of making money, but the question I keep asking myself is, "Why did you blow this particular story out of proportion?"

I feel within myself that I, along with many others, feel that Mr. Perry has been done an injustice. . . . But dead men cannot talk back, or fight back.

I am also an avid reader of Dr. G. James Fleming's column. I thought that his column was in everyday language "all messed up." Dr. Fleming deserves more respect from your newspaper than he received in the January 13, 1973 edition.

MICHELE A. BLAND

Good Work

Dear AFRO:

On Monday Jan. 8, 1973, I was called to the Evidence Control Units of the Baltimore Police Dept. and was given my weapon, which was stolen. I had been having difficulty trying to recover it.

I thank you and everyone who assisted me in solving this problem. May God bless you and may you keep up the good work.

PAUL M. SILVA

A little About A LOT

By MADELINE W. MURPHY

Rodgers and Hammerstein's South Pacific, the famous musical of 1949, had an obscure song, rarely heard, called "Carefully Taught." The lyrics go:

"You've got to be taught to hate and fear
You've got to be taught from year to year
Its got to be drummed in your dear little ear
You've got to be carefully taught.
You've got to be taught to be afraid
Of people whose eyes are oddly made
And people whose skin is a different shade
You've got to be carefully taught.
You've got to be taught before it's too late
Before you are six, or seven or eight
To hate all the people your relatives hate
You've got to be carefully taught."

The Prince George's County school busing debacle is just one of those areas where this song applies. The awful thing is that a whole white generation has repeated the divisive role of racism and hate to such an extent that regardless of the 1954 Supreme Court decision, regardless of the 1964 Civil Rights legislation, Governor Marvin Mandel, is still the opportunist of old, pandering to the fears of bigots, while he plans spending public funds on building new schools under the guise of lessening busing, which Prince George's County educators say are unnecessary.

A recent book by Claude M. Lightfoot, Racism and Human Survival, Lessons of Nazi Germany for Today's World, International Publishers, N.Y., $1.50, deals with the methods used in the East German Democratic Republic's (GDR) education system, whereby children are being re-taught history in the sense that the racist Aryan—anti-Semitic—superiority during the Hitler years, can no longer be tolerated in a growing country.

The rise to power of Hitler, desperately using racism to further his global dominance, to place blame for all the ills of Germany on the six million or more Jews, subsequently murdered in Dachau, Auchswitz, Buchenwald, surely is an adequate example to us that the present racism, carried to that extreme in this country will develop into destruction of blacks in genocidal proportions, as witness the cuts in welfare, housing for the poor, medical care, even to the extent that victims of sickle cell anemia will be scrutinized as to marriage, insurance, job opportunities.

The fact, as defined in Lightfoot's book, that a country committed to the proposition that the evils and destruction of such racist philosophy must be reversed, lends credence to a movement in this country, that we too can do the same.

Lightfoot reveals, after his exhaustive tour through both East and West Germany: "The GDR has built a social system predicated upon undoing the harm done to the German image through two world wars. The objective was to establish cooperative and peaceful relations with all peoples.

"It is especially sensitive to the impact that Nazi Germany, with its 'master race' ideology, had had upon the world and it is determined to help remove racism as a force in the world of today. This has been its objective from the very beginning."

The GDR also turns it attention to the racist encounter, the annihilation of "people whose eyes are oddly made" when it expresses its "indignation at the atrocities committed by the U.S. in Viet Nam."

That black Americans should be surprised at Nixon's mass bombing vendetta against the Vietnamese, against the poor in his anti-humanitarian efforts to block economic social reform, by any means necessary, shows that they are becoming unwitting victims more and more of their own apathy, their own disinterest in world affairs, a near sighted view of their importance and stake in the growth of (possibly) a democratic country.

Lightfoot's book should be required reading, so that some hope can be shed upon the pitiful state in which black people find themselves, so that blacks will discover that there are places in this world where racism is being annihilated ("before it's too late, before you are six or seven or eight").

We need only to take a working blue print from this book, since the major cities of this country have black school systems, black teachers, black pupils, who have the power, from a new enlightment, to change the direction of this country's domestic and foreign policies.

Black history courses are not developed for the uses and betterment of blacks alone, but to hold to the light the truths of varied cultural contributions in the evolution of a true democracy, and to scourge a racism built upon white supremacy.

Though some may call the event of Jan. 20, the inaugural, even the coronation, we should not sit idly by acquiescing to a fait accompli, an ORDINATION, which by divine right gives Richard Milhous Nixon irrevocable power of life and death over 21 million blacks in the U.S.A.

WASHINGTON REPORT
The Employer Of Last Resort

By PARREN J. MITCHELL
(D-7th District-Maryland)
U.S. House of Representatives

In the 92nd Congress, I co-sponsored with 67 other congressmen, the Public Service Employment Bill. A companion bill was introduced in the Senate and had 15 co-sponsors. Both bills failed. This bill, re-introduced by Congressman Augustus Hawkins, D-Calif., in the 93rd Congress, deals with the most critical problem black communities confront — joblessness.

This proposal will provide 1.15 million public service employment jobs and an authorization of $3 billion this fiscal year. When fully operating, the program will be funded at $10 billion annually and will generate several million more jobs in the private sector thereby more than paying its own way in taxes collected and welfare costs saved.

The operation of the program would be patterned after the Emergency Employment Act with several significant improvements. These include:

It would consist of transitional dead-end jobs but real ones with built-in training and educational opportunities;

Federal standards would provide job redesign and civil service reform; and

Broadly representative public service councils would be created to assist local governmental units.

A conservative estimate places the new employment need at almost 20 million decent jobs (considering both underemployed and unemployed, those working at substandard wages, and those who have given up looking for jobs that don't exist). This unemployment crisis, therefore, directly affects 72 million Americans.

While jobs for the unemployed are sorely needed, equally as serious is the fact our public services are badly deficient — in education, health, environmental control, transportation, urban renewal, law enforcement and recreation.

Some of the other special features of the bill are: 25 per cent of its funds would be reserved for areas with unemployment over 6 per cent; of the funds under the Act, 80 per cent would be allocated to states and localities on the basis of unemployment and low-income persons; and special assurances for the employment of Vietnam veterans.

This major piece of legislation has implications far beyond the wording of the bill. It, in effect, re-affirms a philosophy which says, "when automation and cybernation in the private sector reduce the number of jobs needed in the private sector, then the government must become the employer of last resort."

Secondly, the bill acknowledges the strong correlation between rises in unemployment and rises in the crime rate. More police, more courts, tougher sentences, tougher prisons, none of these will really solve the crime problem. We must provide jobs. Thirdly, the bill addresses itself to the inter-relation between unemployment and existing deficiencies in public services.

I urge that at of now we write the Democratic leadership in the House: Congressman Carl Albert, speaker of the House; Congressman Thomas O'Neill, Democratic majority leader and Congressman John McFall, Democratic whip, urging that they give full support to H. R. 13710, the Public Service Employment Bill.

Inauguration Seen Having Second Side

By G. JAMES FLEMING

Many, many thousands in Washington and many millions the world over will witness the inauguration of Richard Milhous Nixon this day (Saturday, Jan. 20) for four more years as President of the United States!

For a democracy, "of the people, by the people, and for the people," the affair will be quite a show, with pomp and ceremony manifique; and bands, and floats, and balls, and lots of "silk and satin," and gold, ermine and diamonds.

There will also be half-clad drum majorettes and strutting drum majors to entertain the sidewalk watchers, as well as mountains of buttons, balloons and pennants on sale as mementos of the day.

There will be smart-stepping military units.

If you have $150, you may buy a silver inauguration plate; less for the bronze, and you must also pay for the numerous dancing and dining functions.

There will be a special symphony concert by the Philadelphia Orchestra at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

No king or potentate could expect much more (none of which started with Richard Nixon, of course)!

Most of all, to viewers, it will be a gigantic parade, or several parades rolled into one.

But, all those goings-on — the official inaugural program — will not monopolize the weekend in Washington.

There will be another parade.

This parade, not programmed, just will not go away.

NOW and THEN

Leading the line of march will be America's presence in Indo-China, whether or not a U.S.-Vietnam armistice is agreed upon before the inauguration.

Next will come the poor, with their old problems and new ones, brought on by the latest rise in the prices of meat, milk and other life-giving necessities.

There, marching too, will be the fears of the sensitive that the White House is "hogging" all the power of government, leaving Congress begging for recognition, for a "piece of the action," for a crumb "from the master's table."

There will be the slum-dwellers and the slums of the land, Washington's being a historic, non-shining example — slums that government seems helpless, if not unwilling, to eradicate.

There will be long lines of yellow buses, reminding all who can see that these buses had general approval when they took black children away from quality education, but now are the objects of condemnation as they tend to take black children to better education.

Even the President has unashamedly said, "I am against busing.

"Period."

There will be black soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen, some wounded, saying to one and all that black men still find the armed services no bed of roses.

Marching, too, in the mind's eyes will be rows of unemployed, mostly black, who find that they are the victims of historic poor schooling as well as of sophisticated technology (automation), difficult transportation, and racial discrimination.

In our imaginary parade, there will be hundreds, perhaps thousands, of school children who find themselves cut off from hot lunches.

DR. FLEMING

These will be followed by similar numbers of mothers of dependent children who have been made to feel that they are criminals, because they have borne children outside of wedlock or because they head fatherless homes.

There will be Mexican-Americans, all born in the USA, who are also victims of discrimination based on their ethnic background and who also suffer from unfair employment, police brutality, segregated housing and poor schooling.

Next will come a delegation of black civil servants — city, state and national — carrying banners shouting their complaints against being kept out of some job, being denied promotions in others, and being subjected to the lowest pay categories.

Behind them, a coterie of citizens protesting the absence of blacks in high appointed office and on commissions of all kinds, on every level of government.

Right behind, a group of women, of all racial and religious backgrounds, reminding the President and the country of the discrimination against them.

"No women department heads," one placard will say.

"No woman on the Supreme Court," will scream another, representing Women's Lib.

And there will be others.

Then will follow Veterans Against the Vietnam War, Wives and POW Mothers, Conscientious Objectors, and Wives and Mothers of (non-war) prisoners.

Next a large, integrated contingent of NAACP chapters.

Those real Americans — the American "Indians" — will be there, in colorful costumes, and with needling placards recalling the countless treaties broken, land and mineral rights stolen, and good schools denied.

All these units in our imagined parade will be reminders of very real problems — problems which will not be swept under the rug.

No make-believe will be the anti-war demonstrations planned to show that millions of Americans still want the nation's thrust into Southeast Asia ended.

Many thousands of our fellow citizens, pledged to peaceful activity, are expected — to camp, to march, to serve as the added conscience of the rest of America.

For one, their plea is that the monies now being utilized for war be spent on meeting dire domestic needs.

On the artistic side, the Philadelphia Orchestra will be counterbalanced by Leonard Bernstein, in person, conducting a people's symphony program for peace at the National Cathedral, climaxed by the "Requiem for the Dead."

This, then, is Inauguration Day, 1973, and it calls, also, for praying that, somehow, the next four years will be good for America and humanity.

A Column Of CHOICE

Vacation In Barbados

By MARION BANFIELD

This column is being written at the Acgra Beach Hotel, Barbados.

My husband and I have thoroughly enjoyed the Atlantic surf and the white sandy beach.

We've walked along the beach, taken pictures and movies of coral stones, of tiny fish and marine life that we had not seen before.

It was quite exciting to be greeted by members of the Banfield family.

A 95-year-old aunt had last seen my husband when he left Barbados 46 years ago.

That's a long, long time!

Last year I was the one who was shocked by the reality of road and house size that I recalled from a visit I had made to Jamaica when I was six years old.

I'll never get over thinking of Lime Hall Square as being about as big as Mt. Vernon Place.

The "square" had to have its tree cut down so cars could drive by!

St. Giles School looked much smaller to Gilbert Banfield in 1973 than it did in 1924.

We met Ignatius Byer, son of the previous headmaster.

Byer lives in a house on a hill overlooking Bathsheba Bay. What a sight!

I had seen paintings of the coral rocks.

You have to see the grotesque shapes to believe them.

Barbados is less mountainous than Jamaica.

It's just hilly — but such beautiful hills!

Exposure to the two islands has given me an opportunity to be aware of the cultural development of Caribbean islands.

Radio and television stations have some of the same programs that we have in America.

Some are versions of ours.

On the other hand there is a definite third world atmosphere for future development.

As one listens to black governmental officials of the Caribbean community, there is the call for cultural identity and goals.

There is encouragement for selected life style.

Economic reality is forcing islanders to become much more conscious of what export and import means.

MRS. BANFIELD

With the entrance of England into the European Common Market, officials are broadening economic plans.

When Jamaicans speak of austerity, they are saying that they must produce more goods for exporting.

Refined white sugar goes out of the country.

Of course, the brown sugar sweetens just as well so far as I could taste.

Big American cars are being restricted.

Money is to stay in Jamaica.

With those winding mountain roads, small cars are much more appropriate.

Racial mixtures of black, Indians and Chinese have produced some beautiful people with a beautiful way of living together in Jamaica.

In Barbados I saw few Chinese and Indians.

I saw black and white socializing in tourist areas.

This small island doesn't have the territory or population of Jamaica.

Next time you have a choice of vacation, try the Caribbean.

This part of the world is growing.

Our young people would do well to become friendly with the beautiful islands to our south.

Colgate University had a group of students coming to Barbados from January until May to study the island's culture.

That also includes possibilities for economic understanding.

Economics is what keeps the world going.

A good choice for black colleges is to encourage their departments to become more conscious of the West Indian islands.

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 newspaper.

A black majority on Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners.

PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro-American

AFDC Families Are Younger

Deficient education, limited job skills and work experience, children without fathers — these are the characteristics shared by most recipients of aid to families with dependent children (AFDC), according to HEW's third annual report to Congress on "Services to AFDC Families."

Both parents and children in the program are younger today, on the average, than those who received help in previous years, the report says. It explains that these same young parents have the least vocational experience, and their children represent the ages for which child care is the most difficult to arrange.

The number of children per family, however, has declined. Families with only one or two children now represent 54 per cent of all families receiving AFDC.

The report notes that nearly half of the 2,041,000 families who receive both cash assistance and social services under the AFDC program are white, and 43 per cent are black. Other groups comprise eight per cent.

The purpose of the AFDC report is to inform Congress about Federal and State experience in administering social service programs during Fiscal Year 1972.

States receive guidance in operating their service programs from the Community Services Administration, a part of HEW's Social and Rehabilitation Service.

In each state, the social services are directed to such functions as facilitating employment, strengthening family life, providing access to family planning and medical care, and preventing institutionalization where possible.

More people (1,030,100) received counseling, guidance, or other diagnostic services related to employment than any other type of service.

A total of 981,200 families received help in obtaining medical care. The third highest number (937,100) received services to improve home and financial management.

The primary instrument for enabling AFDC recipients to become self-supporting is the Work Incentive (WIN) program, jointly administered by HEW and the Department of Labor.

Child care, medical examinations, and transportation are the principal supportive services provided by social service agencies to enable appropriate clients to participate in the WIN program.

Legislation, effective July 1, 1972, substantially increased the number of AFDC mothers who must register for work or training under WIN.

In recent years, several significant trends have emerged in the effort to improve the delivery of services to AFDC families. These trends include the use of paraprofessional staff members and volunteers in providing services, and the purchase of services from local public, voluntary, and private agencies.

Purchased services include child care, family counseling, arranging for foster care and adoption, and homemaker services.

The report says that most states made substantial progress last year toward separating the social service function from administration of money assistance.

Limited copies of the report are available from the Community Services Administration.

The Lead Poisoning Threat

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Each year, thousands of children are potential lead poisoning victims and could suffer permanent mental retardation, brain damage, blindness or even death.

To educate the public on this serious problem, the National Paint and Coatings Association (NPCA) has begun a "community awareness" program designed to alert the public to the causes of lead poisoning and methods for its prevention and treatment.

According to NPCA, one of the causes of lead poisoning is the ingestion of old, pre-World War II leaded paints, containing up to 50 per cent white lead. These paints can still be found on the walls of old buildings, especially in inner city areas.

If this old paint begins to peel, the Association warns, it can be eaten by children and cause lead poisoning. For this reason, NPCA urges parents to take the following steps:

1. Sweep any peeling paint off walls, woodwork and ceiling with a stiff brush or broom. Then, be sure to throw all loose pieces away.

2. Keep looking for new paint chips and peeling paint. Sweep them away before children can get them. Keeping the lower parts of walls free of peeling paint is most important. This is where children can reach it most easily.

3. Don't let children chew on woodwork, stair railings or other places which have been painted — even if the paint isn't flaking.

4. Give children safe things to chew on — crusts of bread, toys made for chewing.

5. Tell big sisters, big brothers and baby sitters not to let children eat paint chips or chew on woodwork, stair railings or other painted surfaces.

The Association also urges parents to be aware of lead poisoning symptoms. These are: stomachaches; irritability or easy tiring; and frequent vomiting. If a child has any of these symptoms, NPCA suggests immediate medical care.

If a child lives in an older house or building and has been seen eating paint chips or plaster, the Association urges immediate medical treatment, even if no lead poisoning symptoms have appeared. Children may be taken to private physicians, clinics, or the Public Health Department for treatment.

If lead poisoning is caught early, the Association adds, the child can be treated and cured.

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.

Can I be A Foster Parent?

Question: Can I be a Foster Parent?

What does it take to be a foster parent? Are there special qualities?

Answer: At Family and Children's Society we have requirements, but the main qualities we look for are mature mothers and fathers who can give their foster child daily love over several months or years.

The state requires that a home be licensed. Our agency can do this once we have a statement of good health on all members of the family and have talked with the heads of the family enough to judge whether they could give a demanding child daily love.

What does "demanding" mean? Sometimes a child has such huge needs for love and approval that he asks for love and attention all the time. Perhaps a child might follow you around all day. Maybe the child has never known love and has to be shown with much patience, what it means to trust and love and believe in a parent. These are a few situations that would require a very capable foster parent.

"I can't do all that alone!", you say. True, few parents could, and this is where Family and Children's Society comes in. Our workers stand beside the foster parents, supporting and helping them to understand and deal with a child who can't love, a child who doesn't eat or who wants attention every moment in the foster parent's day. If a foster parent hears why a child can't trust or can't eat he understands the child that much better. And a greater understanding leads to greater patience.

What are the rewards? The rewards aren't the quick kind but the slow, meaningful ones. Suppose that you have taken an upset child who came to you from a home of divorce, illness, or neglect. Then by giving daily care and seeing him over the adjustments of living with you he can return home or can make his own way in the world. The rewards are a deep sense of meaningful satisfaction, knowing you have contributed to a child's life.

Question: We were having a discussion about Governor Mandel's recent trip to Israel to dedicate roads or something in his name. I seem to remember an AFRO story which said William (Little Willie) Adams and his wife, City Councilperson Victorine Adams were among the 150 persons who joined the tour. Am I right? — JAMES K.

ANSWER: You are, and to prove it we asked the Jewish National Fund's Maryland publicity office to supply photo showing the Adamses were along.

In accompanying photo with Governor Mandel they look over seedlings planted as gift of Marylanders. The young trees are in what is known as the Marvin Mandel Forest.

QUESTION: Can my landlord increase the security deposit when he rents an apartment to a new tenant? John Hill

A. Yes. The landlord may increase a security deposit when an apartment is rented to a new tenant if he can show that his customary practice before Aug. 15, 1971, was to increase the deposit when the rent was increased.

QUESTION: I want to promote one of my men to a supervisor's job which is vacant: How much can I pay him? J.R.

ANSWER: Bona fide promotions to positions of greater skill, effort and responsibility are exempt from the Pay Board's wage and salary standard. This means you can raise the employee's pay to the level of the previous foreman without regard to the 5.5 per cent limitation.

QUESTION: — What are the filing changes required for older taxpayers? MISS M.

ANSWER: — If you are single and 65 or older, you do not have to file a return unless you have a gross income of $2,800 or more.

For married persons filing a joint return, the filing requirement is $3,550 if either husband or wife is 65 or older, and $4,300 if both are 65 or older.

However, if you are self-employed, you must file a return if you had net earnings from self-employment of $400 or more, regardless of your age.

Dentist's Mailbox

By HARRIS HEYDEN, D.D.S.

Q. My dentist has recommended using a new material on the gum lines of my teeth that is painted on. Is this satisfactory?

A. There is a new group of materials available for use in restoring (filling) teeth as well as cementing inlays and crowns (caps). Beyond the removal of decay little tooth preparation is needed, according to the manufacturers. The material adheres to the treated tooth surface. Like all materials and techniques, it is not successful all the time. Whether this material is suitable to your needs is a decision only your dentist must make since he is the one most familiar with your dental health. If you have any questions about the use of this or any material or technique, ask your dentist.

Q. My dentist has recommended capping all my teeth. I'm not so sure. Should I wait until my teeth get bad or more worn before going ahead? Are caps subject to wear decay or offensive odors? How long do capped teeth last?

A. Teeth are usually crowned (capped) because they are too extensively decayed to be filled or they are so extensively filled that they may fracture easily. Anterior teeth are also crowned for esthetic reasons (appearance) and a lost tooth can often be replaced by attaching a replacement tooth to crowns on each side of the space. If a tooth needs a crown, then the sooner the better. It is possible for a tooth to be worn, broken, or decayed too much to crown.

Crowns are subject to wear and breakage just as your own natural uncrowned teeth are. The teeth under crowns are susceptible to decay any place that bacteria can enter such as around the gum line. Whether or not they do decay will depend in large part on how well you clean your teeth and stimulate the gum tissues. Remember plaque forms on crowns just as it does on uncrowned teeth. Finely crowned teeth are no more subject to offensive odors than healthy uncrowned teeth provided they and the gum tissues around them are kept healthy.

Q. I have spaces between my upper front teeth. Could this be the result of biting my nails when I was young? What can be done about this spacing?

A. There are several possible causes of spacing of your anterior (front) teeth but nail biting is not one of them.

The spaces may be there because the teeth erupted that way in a malocclusion (bad bite) in which case some form of orthodontia may be needed to correct the appearance. If you have lost but not replaced posterior (back) teeth a resulting bite collapse may be present. The spacing could be the result of too much force on the backs of the upper front teeth causing the teeth to flare out thus creating spaces between them. In this case the correct bite must first be re-established and then the teeth moved with a light force from an orthodontic appliance.

Periodontal disease with its resulting loss of support of the teeth can result in spreading of the teeth and spaces. Treatment of the peridontal (gum) condition is necessary before the teeth can be moved back together.

When teeth are lost and not replaced, the teeth on either or both sides of the space will often tilt, rotate or otherwise move towards the space in an attempt to compensate for the lost member and fill the vacant area. This will result in spaces between the teeth.

So, first the cause must be determined and treated if necessary. Then and only then can the teeth be moved back together. If the teeth are moved without correcting the cause, the spaces will recur.