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)

Firemen's Victory

Two important dates in the history of the city and black Baltimoreans' fight for equal rights will go down in history, Dec. 6, 1971 and May 2, 1973.

Four black firefighters, Captains Louis R. Harper Jr., Thomas DeShields, Alphonso Thornton, Lt. Carl McDonald filed suit Dec. 6, 1971, accusing the Baltimore City Fire Department of racial discrimination in assignment and promotion of black employees.

On the May 2nd date, Federal Judge Joseph H. Young handed down his historic ruling favoring the firemens.

He ordered institution of a new, firemen's examination, eliminated spelling and penmanship tests as a requirement for an applicant in the department.

Further, he ruled no promotion shall be made from any eligibility list for 16 vacant positions until the new examination is approved as non-discriminatory, that seniority gained by white firefighters prior to 1953 is illegal for future promotions, that Fire Commissioners shall insure that both black and white firemen are graded equally in efficiency ratings, and that the 5-year requirement for employees to remain in grade (at one level), shall be reduced to three years before being eligible for promotion. Plus, lieutenants shall be eligible for promotion after one year instead of five.

The most significant section of Judge Young's opinion is the order which requires the department to give preference in hiring to city residents, a move seen as setting a precedent for other city departments.

In the past, white firemen living in the suburbs have received first consideration.

Many hail this ruling as a far-reaching decision that could turn this city around because in order to preserve its integrity, it must give jobs to persons whose roots are in the city, and who have enough faith and hope in the city to remain here instead of in the suburbs.

Since Judge Young's instructions there has been some reaction in some quarters as to whether the city represented by City Solicitor George L. Russell Jr., won a victory. We don't have to discuss that here.

Civil Rights Attorney Kenneth L. Johnson represented the firemen along with Jeffrey A. Mintz. We think the facts of Judge Young's 56-page opinion speak for themselves. His ruling is clear.

We would hope other city bureaus as well as the fire department will get on promptly with implementing the new regulations.

There is no time for talk about who won or who lost. The Young ruling clearly demonstrates that black firemen have won a significant victory for themselves and city residents.

Little League Time

Depending on the school of thought, this is the good time of the year or it is the bad time of the year.

In mid-May, the interest in Little League peaks among youngsters throughout the world. It is at this time that the program begins to involve more than one million boys between the ages of 9 and 12, in big cities and tiny hamlets from New York to Madagascar.

But, while there are some adults who support the idea it fosters, there are others who condemn Little League. The latter cling to the argument that children should not be exposed to the harshness of discipline by self-styled coaches who are for the most part frustrated athletes, woefully untrained in child psychology.

The Little League idea was born in 1939, when a father in Williamsport (Pa.,) sought a means of occupying his two sons who were neither big enough nor old enough to elbow their way into baseball games with the teenagers of their neighborhood.

Carl Stotz personally rounded up enough youngsters of the age of his boys to form a 3-team league of their own. From that meager beginning, Little League mushroomed to more than 10,000 leagues in the United States, Canada, Mexico, South America, Europe and the Orient.

To supporters, such worldwide acceptance represents a proper introduction to the vicissitudes of life for a young society that is steadily deteriorating from boredom and parental pampering.

Moreover, they note with evident satisfaction that fault-finding is confined to elders. The youngsters are unanimous in their total love for Little League.

An Irving Berlin song once popularized the slogan that "a million Frenchmen can't be wrong." The same may be said of a million kids.

The Life You Save

The next fire could ruin your life or snuff it out. To possibly save you and your family from harm, AFRO readers are urged to keep their eyes open, hopefully to catch the "fire bugs" now believed to be setting the town's vacant buildings and some occupied residences aflame.

Citizens who fail this duty are likely to face trouble. Recently, Juvenile Court Judge Robert I. H. Hammerman ordered arrest warrants to bring in court parents and their children who previously said they were witnesses to a South Baltimore fire believed to be the work of arsonists.

Because they failed to appear in court the defendants were set free without trial for lack of evidence.

Arsonists and those with arsonist tendencies need psychological treatment to save them from a life of "burning."

Fire is disaster. Arsonists are equal to murderers when human lives are endangered.

Around-the-clock patrolling of vacant buildings recently ordered by the Fire Department doubled the number of firefighters. Uniform and plainclothes police officers are watching. But, citizens must help too. Remember, the life you save may be your own.

Adah K. Jenkins

The AFRO music critic, Mrs. Adah Killion Jenkins, died Tuesday after a lengthy illness. She had been the newspaper's columnist 23 years and received the AFRO's highest honor, a place on the Honor Roll, when she was a young woman in 1945.

At the height of her career, Mrs. Jenkins was a gracious and grand lady, well-known to personalities in the world of music. Famed conductors knew her as the AFRO's Adah. Metropolitan opera stars looked forward to her attending their most fabulous productions and accorded her cordial reception to their functions. She was often a guest at White House teas and musicals.

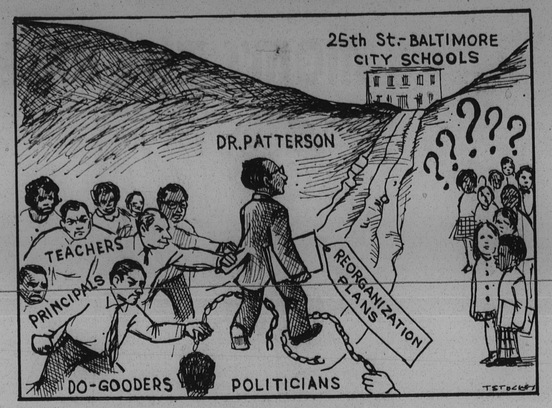
Mrs. Jenkins was not only a pianist and critic of note, but also a veteran music teacher and cited for her efforts to better race relations through her work in the Interracial Fellowship organization.

A dedicated citizen, she took on the role as a civil rights fighter. As early as 1958 when protests were unpopular, Mrs. Jenkins was near the head of the line as the Civic Interest Group demonstrated to open local restaurants and theatres to all people.

However, there are hundreds of Baltimoreans who recall her as a beloved piano teacher. Long years ago, when summer breezes wafted the tinkle of a youngster practicing, the sound through an open parlor window meant there was one of Mrs. Jenkins' pupils at the piano inside. Many of her students are now famous.

Mrs. Jenkins was at one time assistant superintendent of music for the Baltimore public schools and teacher of piano at Morgan State College. Her annual student piano recitals were colorful. She will be missed.

Let Hin Loose, Give Him A Chance



Hang In There, Dr. Patterson

AN EDITORIAL

We have lived in Baltimore City through a period when the City Fathers sought to control the Public School System and limit the power of the superintendent.

The public eschewed this move during the 1930's, thanks to the leadership of Marie Bauernschmidt, a public watchdog and head of the Public School Association, who died in 1962 at the age of 87.

We hope we are not returning to that era, but present activities point in that direction.

Dr. Roland N. Patterson, first black superintendent, has been on the job just 18 months.

He took over a sprawling system, fraught with too many inept supervisors and administrators, long used to doing things in their own way and feathering their own nests, with little thought for the welfare of the children entrusted to their care.

When citizens' groups interviewed Dr. Patterson before he took office, they gave him a mandate — overhaul the school system, modernize its operations so that all involved could go on with providing children with quality education.

Under his reorganization plan, the 25th Street headquarters would be decentralized and employees there would move from their ivory tower jobs closer to the schools they are assigned to serve.

Before he could firm up his plans and complete his chart of organization, there was the Public School Administrators and Supervisors' Association (PSASA), holding a day-long hearing before Circuit Court, Judge David Ross, seeking to delay the implementation of the program until their representatives had an opportunity to confer on the plan.

Judge Ross properly, we believe, ruled, that the administrators had no right to interfere, and dismissed the suit.

We think Dr. Patterson deserves an opportunity to perform without this kind of undue harassment he has received ever since he arrived here.

During the whole time he has been at the helm of the public school system, he has had threats of budget cuts hanging over his head, received requests for administrative changes, from some board members and some public officials, who would substitute their own judgment for his in performing his duties.

Now that his new reorganization plan is about to be implemented, they suggest he ought to take it easy, look at the program again, maybe not move this art teacher, or that music specialist, or that principal or that assistant superintendent, because he is related to someone "downtown" or is the friend of a politician, or he has been on the job so long that he deserves to stay there until he retires.

We are not suggesting that these road blocks occur because Dr. Patterson is the first black head of the Baltimore Public School system.

We would not like to think this is so, but the kinds of things which have happened, suggest there is a subtle racism involved in these so-called suggestions or orders which have marked his administration.

If Mayor Schaefer and the City Council and other public officials truly want to see this city move ahead, they are going to have to give the kind of support to the school system and the superintendent, like the administration of former Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro, III did. We can't expect the schools to operate with inadequate funds and we cannot expect the superintendent and his staff to perform effectively if they are forced to answer numerous memos, if they are constantly receiving calls from board members and city officials who want detailed discussion about their particular teacher or school.

The job of superintendent is bigger than that. He has to look at the whole school system, moving it ahead in the way he sees fit which is what the citizens mandated him to do.

Dr. G. James Fleming, speaking this week at the Philomathians' annual dinner meeting, was correct when he said that too many administrators are spending time worrying about their own private problems, demonstrating for shorter hours, more pay and vacation and failing to address themselves to more important things like doing something to improve the quality of education and teaching children to read.

We think it is time for these administrators, city fathers and politicians to declare a moratorium and give Dr. Patterson a chance to run the school system without this undue badgering.

Like previous superintendents, he deserves an opportunity to fail, or succeed. Get off his back!

A little About A LOT

Black Social Vision

By MADELINE W. MURPHY

When young blacks scorn middle class values, they are nevertheless caught up in the dichotomy of material things vs. ideals, of benefits to the masses.

They see the mess we're in politically, economically, socially; yet they see on the other hand, the excesses of spending, the lack of awareness of the plight of the nation, the state, the world.

Conspicuous consumption is evident in fine clothes, houses, two cars in every garage, we are caught up in conformity where outward signs of affluence typify SUCCESS.

Last week this column discussed who purges abuse, particularly in the political arena. The charge was made that all of us bear a responsibility to bring about social change. How to do it is another matter.

In our misuse of salaries, of spending, banking, we as a group give the monsters of corruption a stronger whip with which to beat us into submission, ultimately, slavery. We support institutions that use us, but don't help us.

We spend money beyond our capacity to earn it. Credit cards mortgage our future. We don't establish a fund or institution with our dollars, which would help us develop the power we need.

With our affluence in church coffers, fraternal organizations, social clubs, investment groups, our two banking institutions — Ideal and Advance — reflect our struggles against these odds, but not the obvious affluent trappings middle-classdom conveys.

We see no need to gather together, to merge so that we can purge political, economic and social abuses.

Perhaps we don't see how interdependent, interrelated we are. How our fate is interwoven into the fabric of every black life.

Money in a capitalistic society means power. Money means control. The money some black politicians can procure to become sucessfully elected, inadvertently comes from our support of the very white institutions that have exploited our misplaced confidence and loyalty. Furthermore, we still expect help, change, favors from the prostituted elected black officials.

Ideally, though, the speaking wheel should get the grease, but actually, the greasing hand gets the kickbacks, the benefits, the profits of shrewd political investment.

Even so, aside from money, another power we don't use in pooling our resources, is cutting our personal expenses to the bone, re-evaluating our priorities to rid ourselves of excesses: wine, women, song; cars, caviar, champagne. We drink more alcohol than any other group. But imagine the impact our abstinence would have upon the liquor industry, alone!

Our young people accuse us of forgetting our roots, forgetting the ingenuity we should have absorbed from our forebears, the preserverance, Motherwit that has insured our survival.

Rather, we flush our affluence down the commode with every party we give, every ball we attend, every bash we sponsor, without a backward glance at those we leave behind.

We snub and feel no responsibility toward those who have become, in, varying degrees, wards of the state, of the federal government. Pawns of a cynical society which uses them as strike breakers (scabs), as exploited migrant workers, as welfare recipients, as juvenile delinquent dope addicts, as dregs of the same affluent society from which we benefit.

They become the khaki-clad fodder for the grist mills of America's imperialistic excursions into underdeveloped countries. Need we find any firmer example than Vietnam or Cambodia?

Without caring, without knowing the toll this takes on our lives, on our credibility with the next generation, like our white counterparts, we absolve ourselves by pleading ignorance, not reading anything, not reacting to anything, being the silent majority.

We refuse to see that the road we emulate toward is slavish middle class snobbery, class worship and leads to annihilation, ultimate oblivion.

Picture how pitiful it is with all the money in Los Angeles, that Tom Bradley, through Gary, Ind. Mayor Richard G. Hatcher must appeal for funds to be successfully elected mayor of Los Angeles. Why must so many distant local black political aspirants have to make national pleas for money?

It points up the lack of black social vision, when our plight with more than 100 million black dollars in white banks in Baltimore, is similar to a sizeable black population in major cities across the land, whose lack of vision allows comparable white institutions to dilute their political strength.

What does this say about black mayoral prospects in Baltimore, 1975?

Money withheld is perhaps more powerful as an instrument for change, than any other single political act. Money spent on black political campaigns is a sophisticated act that Baltimore's black bourgeoisie should begin to develop.

Not spending and depositing in black institutions, has the postivie affect of selective boycotting, of building capital in the black community, by the black community, for the black community.

It's something not only to think about, but also in this time of spiralling costs, something to work positively to accomplish, and at the same time develop a collective black social vision.

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 telephone number.

Then watch for the answer in the AFRO LINE each week because that is where the action can be found.

QUESTION: After unsuccessfully trying to start a drug abuse program for juveniles in the Baltimore City Jail, I was placed on lock-up for allegedly showing disrespect to an officer.

I didn't do it and it's being used as a way to eliminate me and my drug program idea.

There is a conspiracy of guards here to stop what I'm trying to do.

Also, I didn't get a hearing before being sentenced to lock-up, which is a violation of my rights.

What can be done?

D. B.

ANSWER: Deputy Warden Kirkwood Wyatt told AFRO LINE that you didn't get a hearing because you were placed on lock-up for only a six-day "cooling off" period, a term which doesn't require a hearing first.

As for the drug abuse program, he further said no one is trying to stop it.

Last week, AFRO LINE reported that the administration claims it's studying your ideas to see if they can be combined with the already existing CASH (Confined Addicts Seeking Help) drug program.

QUESTION: Whatever happened to the case of Frederick Hall, the man arrested last October for daylight house burglary and who has been in City Jail ever since awaiting trial?

B. T.

ANSWER: Alan Murrell, head of the public defender system in Baltimore, told AFRO LINE, "We didn't become aware of Hall's case until just this March, but the charges against him were dropped and he's since been released."

QUESTION: I have heard that black people get called names because of their color and have their families cursed by white police officers when they, the black people, are arrested.

I've also heard that they're beaten by the officers with nightsticks when they try to defend themselves or their families, either in the wagon or in the cell.

In addition, many black citizens have told me arresting officers often spit on them and that drugs have been placed on arrested persons in order to incriminate them.

What can be done, and who do you see about having it done?

C. C.

ANSWER: Agent James Durner, assigned to the Police Department public information office, told AFRO LINE that you should get the officer's name, badge and vehicle numbers and call the department's Internal Investigation Division, 396-2300, and an investigation will be launched right away.

QUESTION: Juvenile Court Judge Robert I. H. Hammerman has sent my three sons away simply because they're black.

He refused to listen to all the evidence in their cases and just sent them away, plus he will not allow them to come back home.

I think it's about time that these judges be brought out into the light.

Who needs a prejudiced judge anyway?

V. C. M.

ANSWER: Judge Hammerman informed AFRO LINE that you have two courses of action available to you: have your lawyer appeal the cases to the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland in Annapolis, or file a formal complaint against him with the Judicial Disabilities Commission for incompetency and miscarriage of justice.

Judge William J. O'Donnell is in charge of the commission, and you can reach him by writing The Courthouse, Balto., Md. 21202.

AFRO CREDO

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.

(Dec. 25, 1920.)

(From The Papers of John H. Murphy Sr., who founded AFRO Aug. 13, 1892).

Baltimore Afro American

AFRO 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 200 words. Address them to "Our Readers Say," Baltimore, AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

City Solicitor Russell

Dear AFRO:

Why is it that each time City Solicitor George Russell accomplishes a milestone he must be knocked publicly by his fellow black brothers. Recently appointed receiver of Provident Hospital, Mr. Russell received criticism from black elected officials.

Isn't Mr. Russell qualified to do this job? A federal judge felt he was. Is it not true that Mr. Russell ran against the mayor and remained in this position. I'm quite sure he's not there because the mayor loves him. I am quite sure the mayor is aware of Mr. Russell's record of the best legal mind in this state. Why can't black folk do the same.

I'm sure Mr. Russell and other blacks are not courting anyone for a love affair. I am sure the respect of his black brothers would be sufficient. Why do we as blacks have to get hung up on these personality problems?

It doesn't matter if we can't agree with everyone's philosophy; can't we agree on respect? If a white man was appointed receiver of Provident, would these people object?

The time has come for us to learn to respect and work together. The time has come for Parren and George, two brilliantly qualified black men and the front runners of the black community to join together for some degree of the community that was divided by them. We again are not asking for love or even like, but for the sake of the community how about respect.

The progress that we the community could make together as one is unimaginable. Let's stop dividing and begin to bring together.

Beginning with Provident. I challenge George and Parren to combine their efforts to make Provident the success it should be.

I challenge them to raise millions of dollars from the community under their leadership, serving a dual purpose: Unity in Provident's survival and Unity in the survival of the black community.

ROBERTA A. GAINES
(Director Area "D" Model Cities)

A Fair Share?

Dear AFRO:

The United States Postal Service is now a corporation that floats bonds to help defray the cost of delivering mail. It is my understanding that these $10,000 bonds yield a 7 per cent interest.

According to statistics, there are approximately 700,000 postal people.

Can someone tell me why postal people were not allowed to purchase some of these bonds at say $1000 per share and have same deduted as are health benefits, union dues, retirement and government bonds? Would it not have been more beneficial to the postal service to have its employees own "A Piece of the Rock?"

CHARLES R. CUSTIS JR.
Postal Employee

Up with people

Dear AFRO:

Without your help, it just couldn't happen! Thank you.

Ralph Elsmo advised me of your excellent support concerning the "Up With People" show which, as you know, is the major and sole fund raising effort for the Baltimore Police Boys Clubs and scout troops.

We are most appreciative of your efforts. We feel it is a most worthy public service and community involvement project.

EDWARD J. VINNICOMBE JR.

Afro Jan

Dear AFRO:

Most people write to the AFRO's Jan ('Tell It To Jan') with their love problems, but I am writing to you because I want to stop and compliment you on the wonderful job you're doing.

I think it's very considerate of you to help us young people with our problems.

If Baltimore had more people like "you," I think it would be a better city to live in.

At the moment I am confined in Baltimore City Jail, but I can still realize when a person is trying to help brothers and sisters. I feel that more of the young generation should take out time to compliment such an understanding person like the AFRO's Jan.

KEITH O. HAWKINS

Newspaper In Class

Dear AFRO

On behalf of the faculty of Collington Square Elementary School No. 97, I want to express our appreciation for the valuable newspaper material you sent us.

Your suggestions for implementation will be used and, through your cooperation, our children's learning experiences will be enriched.

FERN H. STEIN,
Assistant Principal

Watergate

Dear AFRO:

Perhaps one good aftermath of the Watergate will be a complete shelving of I.Q. tests. Performance should be the criterion for selecting a leader. A high I.Q. without common sense and wisdom is a traversty leading to arrogance and indifference to human needs.

ELISSA WARD JOHNSON

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)

Death Notices

Dear AFRO:

Please keep running your stories about our black funeral directors. I don't understand why they put the death notices in other papers on Tuesdays and Fridays and not in our black newspaper.

I enclose for your information a page from a Kansas City black newspaper where the funeral directors there put in all their notices.

What's wrong with the Baltimore morticians? Is there a special something they have going with the daily papers? Who was that legislator who was asking for an investigation of funeral prices?

J. F. FREEMAN

(Editor's Note: Delegate Frank Conaway offered a bill during last Legislature).

Walk-A-Thon

Dear AFRO:

Thanks ever so much for the good press the AFRO gave to Baltimore's Third Annual Walk-A-Thon. It was a real showing of "Togetherness," as you so aptly pointed out.

Baltimore City did itself proud. If we would add all the committee members, walkers, sponsors and volunteers, they would total about 400,000, all working together for a great cause.

HYMAN AARON PRESSMAN
(Walk-A-Thon Chairman)

What Does Impeachment Really Mean?

By G. JAMES FLEMING

"Impeach" and "impeachment" have become household words in the United States during the past several weeks. Really, household words!

All because of the Watergate affair.

Even though some crackpot splinter groups called for the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren because of the civil rights decisions of the "Warren Court," no one took those demands seriously. Few newspaper columnists, for instance, were mentioning or examining the word.

It is different now, senators and representatives, columnists and commentators, and the "man on the street" are both hearing and using the words, "impeach" and "impeachment." And the object of impeachment would be President Richard M. Nixon.

In hurried talking, even the usually well-informed use "to impeach" to mean "to remove" from office. As one man recently exploded, "Impeach him; kick him out."

It is not that easy. But first let us get straight on what "to impeach" really means.

"To impeach" barely means to accuse and to bring formal charges against a person; usually a person in office; usually in high office.

The U.S. Constitution (Art. I, Sec. 2) says that "The House of Representatives . . . . shall have the sole Power of Impeachment." But that is only the first step.

Step 2, according to the Constitution, is "The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments." (Art. I, Sec. 3). In other words, the Senate sits as a jury in the impeachment process.

If a President is being tried, the proceedings are presided over by the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

(Ask yourself why impeachment proceedings against a President are not presided over by the Vice-President who is the constitutional presiding officer of the Senate).

In order for a President, or any other federal officer, to be removed from office, there must be a two-thirds majority for conviction by the Senate members present.

In the words of the Constitution (Art. I, Sec. 3), "No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members present." So, it is not easy to remove a President from office, under any condition. And no Congress will attempt such removal, if there is little chance of having the impeachment charges upheld.

At the present time, if all 100 seats in the Senate were filled, and all members participated in the impeachment proceedings, it would take 67 votes for conviction to remove the President.

That number (67) is the same two-thirds that it takes to pass a bill over the President's veto — and the present Congress has not been able to muster such a two-thirds vote, except on rare occasions.

Then there are all the interests of party and the emotions of having to fill a vacant Presidency by one elected to be "only the Vice-President," currently Spiro T. Agnew.

The Democrats would need at least 11 Republican votes to achieve the two-thirds needed for conviction — if the vote was purely along party lines.

No one can predict what might happen in the case of Mr. Nixon, because when impeachment is in process or threatened, there are brand new political tensions, conflicts and alignments.

The important thing for the non-expert to remember is that "to impeach" means only to prefer charges. Impeachment, of itself, is not removal from office.

Down the years, the House of Representatives has impeached twelve civil U.S. officers. The Senate has convicted only four, however, all judges of lower federal courts.

The highest-level persons impeached have been Supreme Court Justice Samuel Chase (1802) and President Andrew Johnson (1868), but the Senate refused to uphold the charges — to vote for conviction.

In the case of President Johnson (who was engaged in a post-Lincoln controversy with Congress over the South), the vote was 35 for conviction, 19 for acquittal. In other words, although there was a majority for conviction, it required, by the Constitution, at least 36 votes. Andrew Johnson remained President by just one vote.

GROUNDS FOR REMOVAL — The Constitution says (Art. II, Sec. 4) that "The President, Vice-President and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery or other High Crimes and Misdemeanors."

A great deterrent to initiating impeachment proceedings is the difficulty in pin-pointing and proving "treason" or "bribery." Even more difficult is to define and isolate what are "other high crimes and misdemeanors."

Incidentally, congressmen are not considered "officers of the United States," and cannot be removed from office by the impeachment process. Only the respective houses can remove one of their own members; as the House once did in the case of Adam Clayton Powell, Democratic member from New York's Harlem district.

It's NOT A Man's World

Education Sex Bias At Issue

By BERNICE S. WHITE

As the decade advances, equality for women is emerging as one of education's thorniest and most urgent issues. And little wonder.

At a time when women are demanding equality as both a human and constitutional right, our schools are still imparting concepts of male superiority.

Although women are close to half the working population, education is still primarily preparing them to be housewives.

As an employer, the education system is equally guilty. Women working in education can generally expect lower pay, less responsibility and far less chance for advancement than men working at the same level.

The situation is not without its bright spots. But mounting evidence makes it clear that unequal treatment of the sexes is the rule in education, not the exception.

As a girl progresses through the education system, she confronts serious biases and restrictions at each level, simply because she is female.

From the time they first start school, children learn from teachers, textbooks, games and films that males are superior to females.

Elementary school textbooks reveal startling biases. Females are continually underplayed as topics of interest. An extensive study covering 144 readers from 15 reading series, varying from primer to 6th grade level, disclosed that while boys were the focus of 881 "amusing and exciting" stories, only 344 of these stories centered around girls.

Similarly, there were 282 stories featuring adult males, but only 127 stories about women. In addition, there were 131 biographies of famous men, but only 23 of famous women.

MRS. WHITE

The negative influence that biased curriculum materials exert on children is reinforced by differences in the way teachers and administrators treat boys and girls.

Teachers communicate their expectations of "feminine" and "masculine" behavior in subtle ways: girls are asked to do light classroom chores (watering the flowers or decorating the Valentine box), boys are assigned to the heavier and more responsible tasks (moving chairs or hall patrol).

Physically active girls are labeled "tomboys;" boys who cry are "sissies."

This dichotomy in roles is undoubtedly reinforced when children look at adult roles in their own schools, where they are likely to see that women teach and men run things: an early and potentially damaging lesson in "career education."

For while 85 per cent of all public school elementary teachers are women, 79 per cent of the elementary school principals are men.

By the time children are ready to leave grade school, they have already begun to develop distinct impressions of the limitations placed on them because of their sex.

AUTHOR'S NOTE: (Information used here was excerpted from a report, "A Look At Women In Education: Issues and Answers for HEW," U.S. Office of Education).

NOW and THEN

DR. FLEMING

A Column Of CHOICE

Watergate A Sad Case Of No Ethics

By MARION BANFIELD

We as citizens have an opportunity to take a look at ethics in America in a situation we all hope will never occur again.

In past articles I have suggested that Richard Milhaus Nixon would be an excellent character to study in a social science class. The Watergate disgrace further proves how appropriate that suggestion really was.

Our churches have spent much time puzzling over the unknown and the unprovable. Dogma has been centered around theories of which ever god a particular group of people though was of greatest power or merit.

Schools have labored with making children literate.

Families have struggled to guide children to become self-sufficient citizens.

The Watergate scandal gives us all the occasion to exam our personal and group ethics.

In philosophy or ethics classes we have been made aware of what means are acceptable each an end or a goal. If we teach our children that they must not cheat in order to get good grades on a report card, then we are talking about using bad means to get a good end or goal.

The powerful manipulators with whom Richard Nixon surrounded himself are a frightening revelation of the means that ruthless, arrogant and unethical men will use to achieve their end.

We blacks need to be alerted to the dangers in a government leadership which despises human beings to the extent of the cruelty and murder which was carried on under the label of war against the communist regime of North Vietnam.

MRS. BANFIELD

We need to learn that we are no safer than the Vietnamese. We must learn to recognize the hypocrisy of murder when described as "Peace with Honor" while our air force decorates for the most violence done against a people and their green fields and forests.

The phrase "freedom of the press" has been used without real understanding that the freedom of all America is irrevocably tied to the freedom of our publishers, of our broadcasters.

To the American reporters and publishers we owe gratitude for having exposed the developing of fascism, the danger of suppression of ethics which the Nixon-Agnew team fostered.

It will be the free press, the right to search for facts and truth that will keep this country alert to the need for ethics.

As for our churches, schools, and homes, the time has come to make ethics a well thought out pattern for living.

Columbia University, an old and prestigious college is making a course in ethics mandatory for earning a degree.

Our choice is to make concern with ethics a more meaningful part of religion and education.

Our choice is to bring more consciously into our daily lives a respect for each other which recognizes the supreme importance of man's relationship to man.

What Sen. Blount Said

Dear AFRO:

This past weekend found me in the position that every public official dreads throughout his career. In brief, I was misquoted. I can almost understand how this occurred but understanding does not abate the incredible chain reaction resulting from a misunderstanding of one word. Hence, to set the record straight, this letter.

The facts are these: On Thursday, May 4, Ms. Sue Miller, education reporter for the Evening Sun, telephoned me to confirm my resignation from Dunbar High. During our conversation, I stated that: "I do not want to give up my senatorial seat . . . and as operational principal of the new Dunbar I could not possibly be away for a 90-day legislative session."

Ms. Miller must have heard "Senatorial Fee" rather than "Seat." Yet, oddly, this unusual conjunction of words did not compel her to double-check the statement. This, in spite of the fact that such compensation is always referred to as "senatorial salary" or "pay."

Subsequently, in her report Friday, May 4, Ms. Miller used the word "Fee" instead of "Seat" and the comedy of errors began.

On Saturday, May 5, the Morning Sun's Mike Bowler, in a story on students seizing CCB offices, sub-headlined my new affiliation with the Community College: "Blount joins faculty to keep senate pay." Obviously, unlike Ms. Miller, he did find "Senatorial Fee" an uncomfortable conjugation.

On Saturday, May 5, the News American compounded the error with an article headed: "Blount quits City Schools — Wants to Keep Senate Pay." Again, the News American writer must have found "Fee" to be not quite the right word.

In actuality, I have never been asked to give up my Senatorial Seat, or Salary, by either the city school system or the Community College. In either case, I would not be compensated for the time I served in the 90-day session of the general assembly. Such time is served at full loss of pay. Rather, a simple matter of priorities dictates my decision to move from Dunbar to CCB.

In order to function effectively as an educator, state senator and chairman of the CAA, I must apportion my time to serve each as creditably as is possible. Therefore, since 1974 will be a most crucial year for the new Dunbar — one requiring a full-time administrator — I felt it wise to clear the path for the appointment of such an individual.

Thus, when I was offered the opportunity to head the Social Science Department at CCB, at no increase in salary, I took it.

Here, I can once again partake of the pleasures of teaching in the classroom. Here, too, I can bring the everyday, practical experience gained in politics, to the problems of the social scientists in dealing with today's world.

Finally, I must emphasize the fact that I am not interested in giving up my seat as the senator from Baltimore City's Fifth District. There is too much to accomplish, too much to learn in practical politics.

And, interestingly enough, the salary that I earn as a state senator was never a prime consideration. When I went to the Senate, in 1970, it was $2,400 a year.

The motivation for serving in public office, or as an educator, and certainly as the non-paid chairman of the Poverty Agency is not primarily a financial one.

CLARENCE W. BLOUNT
State Senator
Fifth District

Sunday Is Mother's Day

Sweetest word in any tongue is "mother." Sunday is Mother's Day.

When the world's greatest artists wish to illustrate love, sacrifice, and devotion, they paint a picture of the Crucifixion first, and second, one of a mother with a baby.

Our art galleries are filled with madonnas, mothers nursing babies, watching over a cradle, teaching younger children, reproving older ones, making a wedding dress, knitting a necktie, serving a meal, holding a sick child's hand, smoothing a dead child's brow.

How few pictures there are of children waiting on mothers!

"Honor . . . . . thy mother that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee," is a great commandent, and its implication is plain. Absence of parental respect leads to absence of legal restraint. Lawbreakers do not live to a ripe old age.

Not one out of ten or a hundred commandments enjoins mothers to love their children, because nature's own law is more powerful than any made by man. No mother has to be told to honor her children, remember their birthdays, and celebrate their anniversaries. She knows them by rote. She treasures them in her heart.

So Sunday is Mother's Day; a day upon which millions of children and more millions of older people can honestly say:

"The finest woman I ever knew was my mother."

Wherever you are Sunday, send mother a greeting and, if your own mother is gone, make the day happy for someone else's mother.

(From the Papers of Carl Murphy 1889-1967)