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)

A-4 MAY 26, 1973

Morgan Graduation

Morgan State College's graduation class of 934 is the largest in the school's 106-year history.

There are a number of unique things about this year's commencement. First, the exercises normally held the first Monday in June, have been scheduled for this coming Sunday, May 27, at 2 p.m. on the college campus.

Secondly, of the 934 graduates, 204 will receive the Master's degree. Some 133 of them are Master of Science, 54 Master of Arts and 17 Master of Business Administration.

Under graduates total 730.

Of the 14 undergraduates finishing summa cum laude, the highest honors go to three coeds, two of them products of Baltimore City public schools.

Number one student is Sandra A. Sears, of Miami, a Business Administration major, who compiled a 3.953 average out of a possible 4.00.

Close on her heels, Alverta Moore with a 3.680 average, an English major and a graduate of Baltimore's Forest Park High School.

In third place, another English major, Dorothea Drummond, also a graduate of Baltimore's Forest Park High, with a 3.836 average.

Not until number four spot is reached do the males reach the highest level. This honor goes to Gregory Harrison, scoring 3.750. A Brandywine, Md. native, he is a graduate of Gwynn Park High in Prince George's County.

It is significant to note that 11 of the 14 summa cum laude grads are Baltimore students, products of public schools.

The same is true of those completing with honors in the second group, (magna cum laude), 36 of the 55 are from Baltimore. In the third group, cum laude, 61 of the 94 are Baltimoreans.

Percentage wise, of the 161 students graduating with honors, 67 per cent of them are from Baltimore Public Schools, which speaks well for their public high school preparation.

In addition, to spotlighting the achievements of Baltimore born and bred students, Morgan's Sunday graduation will pay honor to two of its esteemed alumni.

Parren J. Mitchell, the distinguished U.S. congressman from Baltimore Maryland's 7th district, will give the graduation address and receive the honorary degree, a Doctor of Humane Letters Degree for his "unbroken profile of dedicated work for viable change." He is a graduate of the class of 1950, and a former Morgan State College instructor of sociology.

The second honorary degree, a Doctor of Law, will be awarded State Comptroller Louis L. Goldstein. Although not a Morgan alumnus, he is being cited for his concern of all people in his role—as the state's chief tax collector.

Another Morgan alumnus, the Right Reverend Edward G. Carroll, member of the Class of 1930, now presiding bishop of the Southern New England Conference of the United Methodist Church, receives the college's Alumnus of the Year Award for Meritorious Religious and Civic Activities.

Baltimore has further reason to be happy, in that representing the Board of Trustees of State Colleges at the commencement exercises will be another Morgan graduate, Dr. Elaine Carsley Davis, of the Class of 1943 and chairman of the Trustee Board, another first.

President King V. Cheek, who will be presiding over his third commencement exercise, has reason to be proud of this, the 1973 graduating class and Baltimoreans will join him, in hoping that the weatherman, not usually kind on Morgan graduation day, will let the sun shine for this eventful occasion.

Enon And Madison Ave.

It's birthday time this week for two Baltimore City churches.

Enon Baptist is observing the 50th Anniversary of the pastor, the Rev. A. J. Payne, and the 80th Anniversary of the church now located at Edmondson Ave. and Schroeder St.

Madison Avenue Presbyterian, at 2102 Madison Ave., is marking its 125th birthday and the 29th Anniversary of the minister, the Rev. Reginald J. Daniels.

Both of these churches have something in common. They have remained in the inner city areas where they originated to serve the people where they are.

Enon, formerly in the 1200 block of Park Ave. and Madison Ave., formerly on West Madison St. in downtown Baltimore, have demonstrated that there is a need for religious institutions to offer service to people who live in the city.

Both have a long and rich history of contributions to the community and have inspired their members to be good citizens.

The AFRO joins with members of Enon and Madison Avenue in saying, Happy Birthday and thanks for staying and serving where the need is greatest.

Felicia Baker Adams

Every community has its stalwart citizens who work tirelessly for their fellowmen without thought of personal gain.

Such a person was Felicia Baker Adams, who died this week at the age of 56. In the East Baltimore community, where she grew up and spent most of her life, Mrs. Adams was noted as the devoted wife of the Rev. James E. Adams, longtime minister of the United Methodist Church, as a mother, as a church and civic worker and a good neighbor.

Whether her husband's assignment was at a small county church or a large city one, Mrs. Baker was at his side, providing the kind of help and advice ministers sorely need in their often thankless jobs.

The fact that she found time to minister to others less fortunate, to author a column for this newspaper, to serve the Girl Scouts, the Women's Society of Christian Service as president, the Ministers Wives Conference as secretary and win an honorary degree for leadership of the National Ministers' Wives as well as rear a family of five, is indicative of the kind of person Mrs. Adams was.

Those who knew her and benefitted from her generosities, will remember Felicia Baker Adams as a good neighbor who went about her duties lovingly, always willing to lend a helping hand to others.

How To Stay Alive

Memorial Day, traditionally a time for pausing to honor the nation's war dead and for ushering in the summer vacation season, unfortunately has become a time for too many persons to lose their heads and, in many instances, their lives.

The prospect of mounting traffic deaths, injuries and other untimely accidents has been steadily rising with each Memorial Day holiday. The danger has become greater now that the calendar has been changed and, Memorial Day is celebrated continuously on a Monday, thus providing a long weekend for the holiday revelers.

Unless more caution is taken by drivers, those who may frequent the beaches (if the weather permits), and those who celebrate the first big holiday weekend of the year by excessive drinking, the toll will mount again this year. We hope not.

Editorials are written, slogans are broadcast and warnings are posted, but in the final analysis the only person who can reduce the shocking death toll which these long holiday weekends inevitably bring is the individual himself, particularly the motorists.

As we drive, we must remember that the life you save by exercising caution may be your own.

With The Highest Honors

A little About a LOT

Dr. Walton Has No Crystal Ball

By MADELINE W. MURPHY

After months of discussing, planning and reviewing Dr. Roland Patterson's administrative reorganization plan, it seems rather peculiar that Dr. John Walton suddenly has such vocal misgivings. As president of the Board of School Commissioners, Dr. Walton belatedly criticizes a plan to go into effect July 1.

In so doing, he makes individualistic statements not clearly separating himself from board action and using his position as president to begin to form adverse public opinion, so that people reading his statements either foresee a lining up behind him of a majority of anti-Patterson forces on the board such as Maree Farring, or an effort to send up a trial balloon for community anti-Patterson forces to begin doing their dirty work.

To complain that the public should know more at this time opens a Pandora's box fraught with budget cuts, administrators politicking to maintain the status quo, to preserve their selfish vested interests.

Dr. Walton and the school commissioners have been privy all along and party to the secrecy (so-called) of the reorganization plans. Why, then, raise the question at this late date?

It is important to note at this juncture, however, that the thoughtful deliberations Dr. Walton has seemed to assume before, have now been colored by his concern for the administrative post of his wife. This points up the inherent danger of conflict of interest when the public good must be served.

Every school superintendent preceding Dr. Patterson has been hamstrung by forces within the administration who have held on to old incompetent methods, (after 1954), continued racism, and an easy ride toward retirement — doing too little, too late.

Thus a new superintendent has had the problem of breaking up self-serving cliques, obstinate, resentful, recalcitrant administrators who have no intention of changing or even following the lead of a new superintendent.

It is fair to say that a black man going into a situation of this kind has a double dose of the "silent treatment." Of times disloyalty and deceit undermine any effort he may make to improve the educational system as a whole.

Any person who must control the multi-million dollar budget of Baltimore City education, who must improve the quality of education; who must finally ensure Johnny learns how to read; must perform extensive surgery to cut out decadent, uncooperative, inoperative, unimaginative, impotent personnel and replace them with choices who will not only be loyal to him, but also will be imbued with his vitality and innovativeness.

The spurious complaints and criticisms of Dr. Walton, although he has had experience in days gone by as a small town superintendent, don't hold water.

Time has passed him by, making his experiences irrelevant, for within the last twenty years, changes in the educational process have swiftly accelerated, due to the 1954 Supreme Court ruling, the pressure for inclusion of black history in the main curricula, Sputnik and the competitive desire to out-space Russia in science curricula.

In addition, the social upheaval, the war in Vietnam, increased federal expenditures for innovative programs have changed the emphasis of public education.

Dr. Walton has no crystal ball, is no authority on the job market outlook; and certainly is not so omniscient as to predict that Dr. Patterson won't be able to attract the kind of first rate people he seeks. For Pete's sake give him a chance!

It is refreshing to witness a courageous school superintendent who has dreamt dreams and has turned some into reality, beginning with last year's change in principalships, provisional and substitute teachers, this year's "Right to Read" program; and now administrative reshuffling and reorganization.

Let us hope that his search for unique talent, who must be totally involved in the remaking of this faltering school system, will indeed be found, so that "Dr. Patterson's performance and hard work" shall be rewarded by finally achieving a first rate school system in Baltimore City.

How true is Robert Goddard's quotation: "It is difficult to say what is impossible, for the dream of yesterday, is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow."

Augusta T. Chissell

Dear AFRO:

Augusta T. Chissell was one of the heroines of the NAACP's early struggle to secure justice and equality in Maryland.

A woman of refinement and comparative wealth, who was a patron of music and the arts, Mrs. Chissell also possessed a keen sense of her personal responsibility to participate in the ongoing struggle for freedom in which Maryland's black citizens were involved through the NAACP.

The fairness of her skin which enabled her to move more freely in white America, did not lull Mrs. Chissell into a false sense of security. She chose to share the burdens of her brothers and sisters of darker hue under the bitter cross of racial segregation.

In 1935, when the late Dr. Carl Murphy, then editor of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, called Dr. Lillie Jackson and a small group of citizens together in his office to revive the then inactive Baltimore NAACP, it was no accident that Augusta Chissell was one of the group.

She helped revive the branch and served faithfully thereafter on the executive board as vice-president and chairman of the NAACP Interracial Committee until a few years before her death.

Year after year, during the NAACP's annual membership campaigns, Mrs. Chissell haunted the majority community with her appeals for contributions and memberships, seeking from that area some of the financial support necessary to fuel the legal guns in the Baltimore NAACP's continuing assault on Jim crow in Maryland.

The equalization of black teachers' salaries, the abolition of segregation in the city and state parks, swimming pools and beaches, the opening of the public schools to all children, the winning of the invalidation of racial restrictive covenants in housing, the opening of the doors of the public utilities to blacks, i.e. Gas and Electric Company, C and P Telephone Co. and the Baltimore Transit Co., the employment of black firefighters and policemen, the annual NAACP voter registration crusades and the subsequent increased election of black legislators and city councilmen, as well as the enactment of city, state and federal civil rights laws, all these indicate her faith in the justice and freedom she believed would come and her willingness to sacrifice and put her shoulders to the wheel.

We owe to our children and our children's children the story of Augusta Chissell and the valiant women of this city and state who fought for the many new freedoms we now enjoy and take for granted.

May God grant eternal peace for her soul, but may the torch she helped light keep burning brightly until our full and final emancipation is won.

(Mrs.) JUANITA JACKSON MITCHELL

(Editor's Note: Mrs. Chissell died May 14, 1973, at the age of 94.)

Credit To Luetkemeyer

Dear AFRO:

As I can recall it was June of 1965, that I was asked to contact Federal people relative to funding the Western Police Youth League. I recall I contacted a Mr. James Symington, executive director of the President's Committee on Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Crime.

Eventually, I approached the Board of Estimates of Baltimore City. All of these contacts were in an effort to fund a Recreational Program, sponsored by the Western Police Youth League in the inner city.

I think it was about 1966, that OEO came out with a program called: Operation Champ. This program was to be funded in ten cities, Baltimore included.

The WPYL took the necessary steps to gain the contract to initiate the recreational program. Once initiated, we ran into a financial problem due to Federal bureaucracy. Our staff had not been paid in many weeks, and many may have walked off the job unless funds were forthcoming to meet payroll.

The person who prevented this was John A. Luetkemeyer, Sr. I feel that persons now participating in this program owe a great deal of indebtedness to this man for his generosity.

This letter is not to pay tribute to the many dedicated people who made Operation Champ the success it is, but to the person (Mr. Luetkemeyer) who made it possible in the first place.

I sincerely regret his loss to the State of Maryland. I wish him a quick and fasting recovery, and the greatest of luck in his future endeavors.

CHARLES R. CUSTIS, JR.

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMEN

God made beautiful creations
Each having a definite state
But when I observe one that is very special,
Well, I shall not hesitate
One of the most beautiful creatures
Ever to walk on land
Black women! Black women!
You'll sure are grand
Prettier than any pictures
That my eyes ever did see,
I look at amazement,
At all this loveliness before me
Coming in all sizes
And in all different shades
There are some light skin ones
And some as dark as spades
So all you beautiful black women
Whether you be short or tall
I place upon you a crown of distinctness
That shall never fall.

JOHN HAWKINS

Health, Hospitals And Blacks

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

The controversy surrounding the status of Provident Hospital swirls around us. I have strong feelings about this controversy, but I have avoided making a statement on the issue out of my concern that whatever I had to say would be falsely labeled as a strictly political position.

It is important that the black community be especially vigilant on health issues. At the national level we are moving closer to some form of National Health Insurance. When this becomes law we want to be sure that black medical institutions, health services and other efforts are not made an unimportant, dependent part of health care, reacting to the paternalistic directives of all white health institutions and agencies.

My immediate concern is with the First Maryland Health Corporation and the recent staff shake up that occurred.

Dr. Frank Enly no longer serves as the director of that project and William Proctor has also been terminated. I cannot speak to the reasons why these dismissals were sought, but I can speak to my fear that the black community of Baltimore may lose this important health program unless we act to safeguard our interests.

The First Maryland Health Corporation was funded by OEO in July, 1972, to the tune of 1.9 million dollars. It has a staff of 14 people. Its plans include the operation of three health centers which will eventually give service to as many as 45,000 people in the Cachement area. Its implementation plan was approved May 15 by the Office of Economic Opportunity.

The corporation is governed by a 24-man Board which includes representation from the City Health Department, Sinai Hospital, Lutheran Hospital and Bon Secours Hospital. In the implementation plan, the corporation proposed that Provident Hospital provide ambulatory services, and the Maryland Health Corporation subsidize the treatment of 2,800 ambulatory patients a year at Provident Hospital. This would provide significant financial support to Provident.

Now the shake up of staff has occurred. I am certain that OEO must be watching the project warily. We need to look at the status of this project within the context of other local health developments.

The Maryland Health Maintenance Corporation project will not be funded again. Will that group seek now to take over the First Maryland Health Corporation Project.

Both Bon Secours and Lutheran Hospital seek to move to Howard County. Is it possible that either or both of these hospitals would attempt to take over the project thus leaving behind "strengthened" health services in our black community while their major facility moves to Howard County?

Is it possible that the Big Three: Sinai, Johns Hopkins and University Hospitals, which strive to dominate and control Health Services in Baltimore see the project as being absorbed by any of them, thus making one of them stronger as the determiner of health policies in Baltimore?

Remember also that there are approximately 15 million dollars left from the original funding which is to last until June 30, 1974. That is a nice sum for a health facility to try to get, especially when most hospitals are undergoing financial difficulties.

I am not making charges, but am merely pointing out dangers.

We need the project. Readers of this column can be of help.

Write to Richard J. Greene, M.D., Ph.D., Deputy Director of Research and Development, Office of Health Affairs, Office of Economic Opportunity, Room M-807, 1200-19th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20506, urging that the implementation plan be made operational immediately and further urging that blacks retain full, firm control over the First Maryland Health Corporation. Please do this. Please do not put me in the position of having to say later on "I told you so."

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.)

AFRO READERS SAY

Readers are invited to submit letters of 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.

On Del. Conaway

Dear AFRO:

I am appalled about the editorial of May 4, labeling parts of the press release of Del. Frank M. Conaway (D. 4th) as "merely rapping."

In the same edition there were statements by Earl Koger, Jr. that said basically the same things. However, the AFRO-AMERICAN saw fit to criticize some of the statements made by Del. Conaway.

It appears to me that the AFRO-AMERICAN has a vendetta against the hard-working delegate. I believe that Del. Conaway is a hard, sincere, and dedicated member in the Maryland State Legislature.

I have been following the legislative routine printed in the three daily newspapers, and I come to the conclusion that Del. Conaway has introduced and probably has passed more legislation this year than any other black elective official.

However, the AFRO-AMERICAN has not seen fit to give his accomplishments proper publicity.

It is very discouraging that this newspaper has given wide publicity to his domestic problems (which is not newsworthy) and has failed to give wide publicity to his legislative accomplishments.

There have been many articles in the "white" daily newspapers depicting many investigations into discriminating practices in promotions and employment, and I asked the question why has the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper not seen fit to give publicity to such a worthy cause?

A black newspaper should be about the business of properly reporting news that affects the black community instead of printing stories about divorces, child support, rape, murders, and professional status.

Very frankly, it has been difficult for me to ascertain what the elected officials are doing.

It would be far better to read about what is going on in Annapolis by our black officials than to constantly see pictures of and read about some of the black elected officials who are constantly looking at graves and "merely rapping" and being very ineffective in passing legislation.

If Del. Conaway can be accused of "merely rapping" than I say, 'right on brother.' It would behoove the black community to have more elected officials of the capabilities of Del. Frank M. Conaway.

ALICIA J. BYNUM

About Lottery

Dear AFRO:

I feel as though the governor should take the power vested upon him to pardon executive clemency to those who are now incarcerated for lottery.

Lottery is now legal in the state of Maryland and has not, as we know always been so. It was once looked upon as being immoral.

Since the state has taken a few steps with the changing times, I feel as though at the step the state is at now that it needs to stop and check out anything that might come up due to this legalization of lottery. As a citizen I feel as though the penalty should be something of this sort.

Large fines
To be taxed
To be imprisoned on a second offense etc.

I also feel that the state can lose by not changing its present laws pertaining to lottery.

At present, people are being imprisoned for a lottery offense.

As we all know, it takes money to run institutions and the more money the state puts out for these institutions makes it less for the state to put on things that I consider also a priority.

D. McCOY

Deb Speaks

Dear AFRO:

I participated in a debutante cotillion this year and I agree with everything Mr. Paul Howard said in his letter you published (May 19)

I think the debutante cotillions — the Me-De-So's and the Elks are old-fashioned. Many of my friends do too, but we can't convince our parents. Obviously, I do not wish my name used. Just sign me,

ADEB

Another Deb

Dear AFRO:

Nobody forces anybody to be a debutante (at least the organizations which sponsor the cotillions don't, maybe parents do), so if our young ladies don't want to be presented they don't have to be.

In recent years, emphasis at the cotillions has been on achievement in school and community and the young ladies have been placed in the limelight because of their contributions. There is nothing wrong with this.

A party honoring them encourages them to rise to greater heights. I don't think people should rap against something they don't understand. Furthermore, I am sure many of the doctors and dentists who support the Me-De-So Cotillion and the Elks who give theirs are people who are constantly giving money and service to the community.

I think Mr. Paul Howard's letter (May 19), is unfair to these fine people. He should be rapping against the people who don't pay up their pledges to Provident Hospital.

X. Z.

(Ed.'s Note: These letters were signed. Signatures were deleted at writers' request).

Y Pleased

Dear AFRO:

I would like to thank the citizens of Baltimore and the AFRO-AMERICAN for the support that the Druid Hill Branch YMCA received during its recent "Swim for the Health of it" Swimming Marathon.

RICARDO C. TURNER, Chairman
Druid Hill YMCA

Was Nixon A Captured President?

By G. JAMES FLEMING

Was Nixon his "own man," was he really "the Chief Executive" under the old arrangements before the toppling of his Haldeman-Ehrlichman callers of the signals?

In many ways, it appears the President is a victim of his own great desire for isolation, meditation and for seeing as few people as ever.

He wanted to be at the pinnacle of the hierarchy, but he did not want to be bothered with the minutiae of operations and the chores of decision-making.

So he turned these areas over to others, particularly H. R. (Bob) Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman and their echoes (and, in foreign affairs to Dr. Henry Kissinger).

All of this sounds like good administration. It appears as orthodox as it might be on any organizational chart. Indeed, such a chart looks like General Motors'

But Haldeman and Ehrlichman forgot that they were only agents, only extensions of the President. They got their roles mixed. Further, in the midst of the leadership vacuum created by Mr. Nixon, they moved forward, upward and deeply. They even out-ranked the Vice-President.

They developed plans, they promoted position papers, they took fishing expeditions, they pushed lots of really important people around.

They were pregnant with ideas — the extent of which may never be known.

It can be imagined that, to some degree, Mr. Nixon became only a signer of papers, at best an approver.

But the men in Mr. Nixon's inner circle were ambitious. More than that, they were enjoying their role of puppeteer — manipulating the President. They were enjoying themselves. The President was captured.

This column can imagine Haldeman, Ehrlichman and their fellow-travellers smirkingly laughing over what they had done, via the President; pointing to the Cabinet members they had made to tremble; of the generals they had made to "toe the mark."

They must have joked, also, of how the President really thought HE was running the country!

This is the way some little people behave when they come close to power; people who would not even be a footnote in history, except for their surrogate relationship to a President.

Dr. Kissinger would be considered several pegs above the Watergate Boys by most people. Nevertheless, this observer has long been nervous over the almost wholly unilateral prerogatives exercised by the President's personal foreign minister.

Perhaps it is his Germanic thoroughness and incisiveness that frightens one. Perhaps, it is his flair for operating so "foot-loose and fancy-free" away from the seasoned professionals of the State Department.

Perhaps, it is because, although we know the effectiveness of decisions by one or a few, we also know that when single-headed power falls, the collapse is great and total (Refer to Hitler and Mussolini of recent history).

This column, for one, is pleased that Mr. Nixon is reorganizing his top command and, especially, that he will now see his Cabinet members with some regular frequency, and that he will have more of an open door to members of the Congress.

He may even bring a few political professionals into his White House operations — men and women who can work with others, who are sensitive to the limitations of power, and who know when enough is enough.

DR. FLEMING

The President's ego (of which he has his share) may even now rebel against those who may want to exploit his love of isolation and of hiding away in some Shangri-La.

TAKEOVER OF COUNTRY? — One friend of this column is of the firm opinion that Haldeman, Ehrlichman, et al, had extended their tentacles so thoroughly, and in so many directions, with one objective in mind: To bring about a take-over of the country, dictator style.

This "solid-citizen" continues that this Nixon front hoped that, by early 1975, they might somehow amend the Constitution, so that Nixon could run for a third term, ad infinitum.

Two years ago, this column would have laughed at this viewer-with-alarm, but with FBI records burned, the CIA tampered with, a federal judge offered a bribe, the office of a defendant's psychiatrist burglarized, and Watergate — all at White House behest — who can laugh any more?

A Column Of CHOICE

City Lacks Integration Leadership

By MARION BANFIELD

In a May 19 editorial, the AFRO brought up a relevant issue. In 1973 we still find ourselves with a segregated public school system.

"Massive population shifts, failures of educators to face the importance of finding innovative ways to keep schools and staff integrated by allowing parents, teachers and politicians to dictate what is educationally sound, find the city in a precarious position again (after 1954 Supreme Court decision).

"A substantial number of public schools are predominantly black and staff integration is defective," the editorial stated.

When there have been dramatic moves involving racial problems, either directly or with sophisticated subtlety, white parents have taken major control of the situation.

In the late 1960's a class of incoming boys to Northwestern High School were recommended to Baltimore City College to reduce overcrowding at Northwestern High School.

About 100 of the boys were white. Baltimore City College was considered a black school that had lost the old image of scholarship standards.

That proposal from 3 E. 25th Street died as soon as the large number of white boys was brought out.

My suggestion for groups of black and white students and parents to meet and discuss ways of making the plan work was rejected. Interestingly, a black parent and a black teacher were among the first to knock down the human relations approach.

Neither the 3 E. 25th Street nor the School Board took a human relations stand.

The magnificent Lake Clifton High School was opened as an all black school in spite of its geographical location in a racially integrated neighborhood. The same is true of Northwestern High School.

White parents preferred Northwestern High School on shift to the educational richness that black and white students could have shared at Lake Clifton.

MRS. BANFIELD

Neither the monolith at 3 E. 25th Street nor the Board of School Commissioners had enough conviction about black and whites learning together to get an integrated high school.

Fallstaff Middle School will be integrated but not because of 3 E. 25th Street leadership or concern of the School Board.

A group of educated, sophisticated, middle class, mostly white parents, wanted an integrated school with high scholastic standards. They planned and fought together and won.

There aren't enough white children left for integration of the majority of schools.

It seems a shame to wait for a court to order the Board of School Commissioners to get enough concern and conviction to carry out integration more effectively than has been.

There is no citizen task force on education. Some of the present Board members will recall past efforts of citizens, lay and professional, to influence the human relationships within our school system.

There were constructive citizen-caring and citizen recommendations from 1966 to 1971. The professional elite of 3 E. 25th Street were never enthusiastic about citizen participation.

Mayor Schaefer has not appointed a task force on education. The Board of School Commissioners hasn't gotten around to any meaningful citizen involvement, except when forced to listen and react in crisis.

Our choice is for a parents group, the Board, the mayor, or Dr. Patterson to involve black and white citizens to get to human problems of teaching and learning without awaiting a crisis.

Who will it be?

NOW and THEN

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.

QUESTION: My aunt is in an old age home and they have raised the board and room fee there from a little less than $100 a month to $200.

Even if it's lawful, is it fair to more than double the fee?

I don't think it is right to raise the fee for old people that much, all at one time.

My aunt and my cousin are worrying because they don't know where they're going to get the additional money.

Can you help us?

A. N.

ANSWER: Mrs. Mary E. Spicer, administrator of the home in question, told AFRO LINE "We've had to raise our fees as a result of the high cost of living.

"Some people here still pay less than $3 a day, but they understand that we call social services to try to get the rest from them.

"In the case of this lady, the extra money will come from social services, not out of the pockets of the family."

QUESTION: My story is in reference to the gospel shows around town.

At a recent program, one of the main groups scheduled to be there didn't even appear.

In addition, I didn't mind paying $5 for a good program, but when you have three other people who have only $3 tickets and no usher to direct you and the $3 patrons sit right next to you, you begin thinking.

What can be done about this sort of thing?

W. M.

ANSWER: AFRO LINE was informed that your best course of action would be to contact the Better Business Bureau, 401 N. Howard St., Balto., Md. 21201.

They will give your claim quick service.

QUESTION: My son was arrested last Sunday by police officers who knocked him to the ground in front of my store on Fayette St.

He tried to tell the officer he was on his own property, but the officer just wouldn't listen.

My son was waiting for a bus to go downtown to a movie and the policeman had told him to move along.

He has been released and is now awaiting trial.

What can you do about this?

T. C.

ANSWER: Officer James Durner, Police Department public information specialist, told AFRO LINE that the policeman arrested your son after he refused to move off the street corner.

The arresting officer believed your son to be involved in street gambling, and he had come to that corner specifically to investigate a gambling complaint.

He reports that your son told him "I'm not getting on a bus, nor will I move on."

According to Mr. Durner, when the officer tried to arrest your son, the youth fought back and tried to pull away.

It was then, say police, that he was knocked down and handcuffed.

Bill Elliott

Dear AFRO:

After meeting Mr. Bill Elliott, I was anxious to find out what role he plays in his new movie, COFFY, so I went to see the movie and found it to be really good.

Elliott has a reasonably short part, but a good one. He is a policeman who gets beat up by gangsters because he doesn't want a piece of the dope action.

We see the end of him when he is in serious condition in the hospital.

He portrays his role well.

I am glad a Baltimore actor has come so far.

RAY PROUT

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)

IF YOU ASK ME

By BETTYE MOSS

No wedding bells will ring in Los Angeles for Baltimore's Audrey Smith Brooks and former Baltimorean, Tom R. Hawkins.

A terse long distance phone call to this office Wednesday simply announced the wedding was off. No details. Efforts to reach both Mrs. Brooks and Mr. Hawkins by phone proved futile.

Her father, Dr. A. A. Smith of Morgan Park, told this column he had no details as to why the event was called off.

Invitations received here announced the couple would marry this Saturday, May 26, at Holman United Methodist Church in Los Angeles. Mr. Hawkins, a widower, is public relations director of the Martin Luther King Hospital. More later, I hope.

Big bash out Pikesville way on Saturday evening was the open house hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Percy Winfield Thomas. (She is known professionally as Dr. Beatrice Dennefield).

Some 350 guests joined them at the spacious Steamwood Drive home, formerly the Roselyn Estate, which they recently occupied.

It was formerly the Hauswald residence and is said to have been home for Revolutionary War hero John Eager Howard.

Cuff notes: The house has 20 rooms and the driveway to the house is over two blocks long. Honest. And Saturday evening, you couldn't get within parking distance of the front-door or anywhere in a four-block radius.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are educators. Both teach at Coppin. He is a Md. State and Coppin grad, presently working on his doctorate in mental hygiene at Hopkins.

Mrs. Thomas (Dr. Dennefield), is also a psychiatrist at City Hospitals. They have a 3½-month-old son, Alfred Winfield Thomas.

More open house: When Mr. and Mrs. Howard Tutman (Carolyn), held open house, also on Saturday on Morrow Ct., out Randallstown way, we had an opportunity to see another attractive new development and to note that it is integrated and thriving.

All are new and distinctive. Lovely.

Mr. Tutman is the Housing Urban Development exec and the Mrs. is an AFRO exec secretary. They have three youngsters who were happy as could be enjoying the spacious play area.

Sitting at the Hilton Hotel on Friday evening and watching members of the Monumental City Medical Auxiliary count up their guests and conclude they had a successful benefit for Provident brings to mind that a lot of people are talking about doing something to help Provident but aren't.

The medical wives did. When you all going to pay your pledges or give a benefit?

And, orchids to the Provident Hospital Auxiliary. They had a large and enthusiastic crowd for the benefit fashion show on Sunday at Martin's West.

Cuff note: Dr. Antoine Browne and Mrs. Vivian Pendleton who were hand-holding at the medical auxiliary benefit admit they have wedding plans.

Send condolences to the family of Mrs. Juanita Bruce Taylor of 4103 W. Forest Park Ave. who was buried last Saturday in Richmond. You'll remember her as "Moms," as she was fondly called by the many friends who patronized the LaPlaza Restaurant run by her and her husband in the 1300 block of Pennsylvania Ave. until she became ill three years ago.

MRS. MOSS

You'll remember, too, that their Forest Park Ave. home was a beauty spot every Christmas with its elaborate decorations on the house and lawn which drew admirers from all over the city.

Immediate survivors include her husband, Jack A. "Pops" Taylor; daughter, Mrs. Jacquelin T. Wren of Baltimore; son, Carroll T. Fox Jr., Richmond; two sisters, Mrs. Consuella B. Dandridge of Richmond and Mrs. Tillie B. Lee of Baltimore and brother, Harrison Bruce Jr.