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)

The Mello Case

Police Commissioner Donald Pomerleau's sudden removal of Capt. Dennis P. Mello from his Western District command is cause for alarm.

The transfer of the highly respected district commander to the Criminal Investigation Division where he retains his same rank, indicates Capt. Mello is not personally suspected in the case of the 13 Western officers indicted by a Federal grand jury for allegedly taking lottery bribes.

So why the transfer? Western District's two square miles, crowded with 100,000 persons, nearly all black, need the sensitive hand and dedicated leadership Capt. Mello has provided these last seven years as he has worked to reduce hard core crime and improve community relations.

When the then Police Commissioner Bernard Schmidt named Mello the first black captain in October, 1965, the AFRO called it 'a cause for rejoicing.'

But this newspaper tempered its joy with what it called a 'realistic view of harsh facts' surrounding the makeup of Western.

In an almost prophetic vein we cautioned: — that directing Western with its problems rooted in years of tradition, economics and racial overtones and other man-made obstacles,' was a challenge.

We predicted that Capt. Mello's 21 years of service adequately prepared him for the job provided he received the 'cooperation and support' normally given other police commanders.

And today, black Baltimoreans rightly question the wisdom of Comm. Pomerleau who returns the Western District to a white commander instead of permitting the man best equipped to handle it remain, as he did earlier this year in the case of other high ranking police officers who supervised men accused of law violations.

In discussing the racial complexity of assignments with the AFRO this week, Commissioner Pomerleau suggested that the race of commanders should not be considered and pointed to his record of "taking care of the black people" since he became commissioner in September, 1966.

He viewed his reassignment of Capt. Mello as a 'management procedure', and pointed to his promotion of two black majors, Bishop Robinson, who is now director of Central Records and Clarence E. Roy, a deputy area chief. Also a major is James A. Watkins, community relations.

However, AFRO readers have rightfully questioned whether at this time in history, the police department's management posture is good.

In a city, half black, where the police department is a sensitive center, it is important that its top echelon reflect the racial complexity of the city.

One district captain out of nine is not truly representative. Neither are 3 majors out of 16.

Like the Fire Department and other public service bureaus, the Police Department needs to be more in tune with the times. Out of 3,379 police officers in Baltimore city today — June 22, 1973 — only 449 are black, and 399 of them are patrolmen.

Look at these other figures. Baltimore has only 4 black lieutenants out of 99; 14 black sergeants out of 380; and all of the 4 lieutenant colonels are white.

The AFRO has consistently praised Commissioner Pomerleau for the efforts he has made to improve this employment picture. In fact, he won this newspaper's highest award, a place on the 1969 Honor Roll, for his leadership and modernization of the department and improved race relations on the force.

We think Commissioner Pomerleau can move faster in changing the employment picture in the police department.

It is in this vein that the AFRO disagrees with Commissioner Pomerleau's premise that the black community is trying to make an issue out of Capt. Mello's reassignment.

We agree with black citizens that Western District needs to retain the services of Capt. Mello, who has already demonstrated his effectiveness in a very difficult area.

In our judgment, Comm. Pomerleau's 'management procedure,' in replacing Capt. Mello, is a tactical error which has set this city back, and we can't congratulate him for that!

Little Lib, Too

For years, the AFRO has strongly endorsed Little League baseball and supported the rights of women to compete in non-contact sports.

It has met the argument of Little League opponents who assert that the program imposes too much regimentation, and too great premium on victory for youngsters' tender years.

The AFRO's answer was, and is, that such an attitude is the outgrowth of parental determination to be over-protective. It does no harm to let the nation's youth experience the short-lived joys of victory and the temporary pangs of defeat. Instead, it should be part of the early education process.

Now comes the clash between Little League and "Little Lib."

Girls in various cities from coast to coast are attempting to share the program, but Little League officials steadfastly refuse to approve their participation.

As a result, several suits have been filed on behalf of girl athletes, attacking the constitutionality of Little League regulations barring them. And the AFRO hopes they win.

If boys can learn to live with adversity, they should be able to live with girls.

H.H. And Dave

Two recent testimonials saluted deserving civic workers.

Howard H. Murphy, 72, retiring after 22 years as member of the old State Welfare Board and chairman of what is now known as the Social Services Advisory Board, was honored by fellow volunteers on Friday.

Younger members of the audience were surprised to learn that over 20 years ago Mr. Murphy campaigned for family planning, played an important role in the salvation of juveniles through his work on the boards of Boys Village and Montrose School for Girls; that he campaigned for the adoption of black youngsters and fought for the rights of welfare clients to determine their own destiny.

David L. Glenn, 48, who resigned as staff director of Baltimore City's Community Relations Commission after eight painstaking years as a watchdog against racism, received a similar salute on Tuesday evening.

Although lacking financial support and little help from City Hall, CRC under Dave Glenn has made an impact in reminding employers, both public and private, that discrimination in employment and hiring is illegal, immoral and outdated.

While Mr. Murphy is retiring, Mr. Glenn has assumed a new post with the State Department of Employment and Social Services where he is already busily engaged in program coordination under the direction of Commissioner David T. Mason.

Both Mr. Glenn and Mr. Murphy have something in common. They are persons of unusual temperament, whose counsel has been sought and respected. They have volunteered their time and talent and shown great compassion for their fellow man.

We congratulate them both.

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;

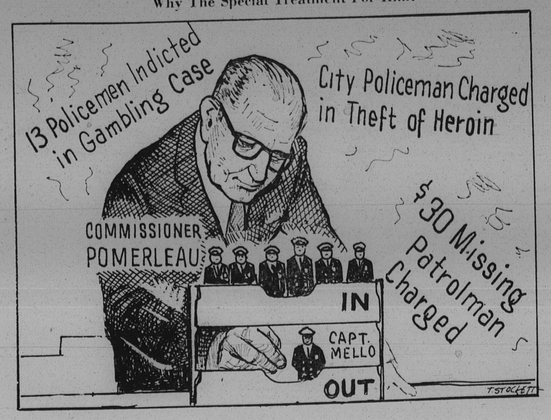
Whether it is fighting to get rid of slums, to provide jobs for everybody;

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).

Why The Special Treatment For Him?



Don't Count On Census To Be Right

By MADELINE W. MURPHY

Every ten years, as a result of census taking, political subdivisions are revised so that electoral districts — State Legislative, Councilmanic, Congressional — will be of equal population or near equal population to fulfill the Supreme Court's mandate of "one man, one vote."

On this basis, recently, under revenue sharing, political subdivisions receive funds from the federal government.

Official census figures, rather than registration figures, or land areas, determine electoral districts and have a great deal to do with formulas for revenue sharing.

What this does is to shift the political weight in state, city and federal elections from over-represented white and rural interests, where population has declined, to urban interests and sections where larger numbers of black citizens will have a greater share of services and benefits, as well as reformed Councils, Legislatures and Congress, more representative of this greater need.

The import of this shift in emphasis, however, is dependent upon an accurate census count.

Numerous urban authorities in the black community have conjectured, since 1970, that the official count of black people in most urban centers has been greatly underestimated for a variety of reasons.

In housing projects there may be many hidden people who are illegally housed by relatives and friends, particularly if they are of marginal income or on public welfare.

In many homes, blacks, suspicious of strangers asking questions of a personal nature, refuse to open their doors to census takers, and in densely populated ghetto areas, where crime is higher and acts of violence are the rule, blacks cannot be trustful of smooth talking strangers for fear of being "ripped off."

Thus, black children under 10 years of age represent a greater undercount — 8.6 per cent — than the black population as a whole — 7.7 per cent.

Inadequate supervision of census takers, in densely populated areas, contributes to deceit, lying, or "guess-timates" of figures by uncommitted or frightened workers; and complicated forms sent to absent or working householders are either ignored, or confuse them so much that there is a low rate of response.

Thus, the undercount of blacks in census taking hurts us politically, economically and socially.

FOCUS, the Joint Center for Political Studies' monthly newsletter, May 1973 issue, reveals that the U.S. Bureau of Census "failed to count at least 1.88 million black people in the U.S. — equivalent to the combined total populations of Atlanta, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. . . . ." The figure represents a 7.7 per cent undercount in 1970 which is a little less than the 8 per cent undercount of 1960.

FOCUS reports that "when 1970 census figures are used, black communities and those with large black populations, will on the average, receive a smaller share of revenues, and possibly less political representation, than they should."

Baltimore, in 1970, went through the motions of a sample recount of its black population — especially since its population had declined since 1960 — finding a .07 per cent variance, but it may well be assumed, given the paranoia of industrial and business interests about black political takeover, that the undercount of blacks in Baltimore's census is great.

"For minority elected officials, these new revelations suggest several avenues for action," says FOCUS.

"They may wish to communicate with federal officials on the means by which statistics for black communities are determined; they may wish to take special censuses in their own areas, and send the results to federal and state officials along with funding requests; they may wish to set up procedures for assisting the Census Bureau in obtaining a more accurate population count in the next census; and they may wish to review other federal programs in their communities to see where new population information could alter the amount of funds received."

According to FOCUS, "The revenue sharing program provides a clear opportunity for using this new census data for the benefit of black communities. A section of the regulation under which the revenue sharing program operates permits the secretary of the treasury to use "other data, including estimates," when the data provided by the Bureau of the Census or the Department of Commerce are 'not current enough, or are not comprehensive enough, or are otherwise inadequate to provide for equitable allocations.' "

Now that conjectures of black urban specialists have been confirmed, Maryland's black political community needs to launch another "bootstrap" effort.

As usual, liberation requires perpetual vigilance, diligence, and resolve, if we are to prevail.

A little About A LOT

WASHINGTON REPORT

Is The Law Protecting The Poor?

By PARREN J. MITCHELL
(D-7TH DISTRICT-MD.)
U.S. House of Representatives.

No anti-poverty program has been under more savage attack than the legal services program for the poor.

It was developed as part of the Community Action programs authorized by the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. The program was established to provide the same range of professional legal services for the poor that are offered rich citizens by private attorneys.

During the years after 1966, the OEO legal services program came under increasing attack by conservatives and certain governors who wanted to control the program. Because of this threat of outside political interference, the Ash Commission on Executive Reorganization recommended in January, 1971, that the legal services program be removed from the Office of Economic Opportunity and be administered by a private nonprofit corporation. Rep. Meeds and Senator Mondale introduced legislation embodying these recommendations. President Nixon submitted his own legislation.

On Thursday the House of Representatives considered H. R. 7824, the Legal Services Corporation Bill. This Bill, a compromise measure was supported by the American Bar Association, The American Civil Liberties Union, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and the AFL-CIO.

Although I supported the Bill, I had great concern over the restrictions contained in the Bill. Under H. R. 7824, the following restrictions are placed on cases and activities:

—Free-generating cases could not be handled except as permitted in guidelines promulgated by the Corporation;

—Criminal cases would be prohibited;

—Civil representation could not be offered to persons who have been convicted of a criminal charge where the civil action is connected with the criminal conviction and is brought against an officer of the court or a law enforcement officer. Civil representation seeking to improve conditions of a prisoner or general welfare would be permissible;

—Representation of juveniles under 18 years of age would be prohibited without the consent of a parent, a court, or in circumstances deemed appropriate by Corporation guidelines;

—Recipients would be prohibited from conducting training programs for the advocacy of particular public policies or which encourage political activities, labor or anti-labor activities, boycotts, picketting, strikes, and demonstrations.

The restrictions placed on employees are similarly stringent. The Bill would prohibit employees, while on program time, from participating in or encouraging others to participate in rioting, civil disobedience, picketting, boycotts, strikes, violations of an outstanding injunction, or any illegal activity.

Employees would also be prohibited, while on program time, from participating in any political activity, including registering voters or transporting voters to the polls.

The Bill would also prohibit attorneys employed full-time from outside practice of law for compensation, as well as from outside practice without pay, except that deemed appropriate by Corporation guidelines.

Black citizens and the poor benefitted from past legal services because (a) group representation was allowed; (b) organizing activities were allowed, (for example, incorporating a self-help group of poor people); and (c) Legal Service Attorney could engage in political activity on his or her own time. If H. R. 7824 is passed, all this will be ended, and the poor in our society will suffer another blow.

While the House of Representatives debated this Bill, another disaster for the poor was taking place.

The "REGGIE PROGRAM" (Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyers Fellowship Program at Howard University was under attack. "Reggie Lawyers" have been tough, uncompromising fighters for the poor. OEO made the decision to discontinue funding of the "Reggie Program" at Howard University.

It has been proposed by OEO to allow the Howard Administration 90 days to phase-out operations, concluding on September 20, 1973. It is further contemplated by OEO that they will make recommendations to the Legal Services Corporation that any future applications submitted by Howard for funding and administration of a fellowship program be rejected.

Needless to say, these steps effectively accomplish a dismantling of the Reggie Program in violation of the substance of the U.S. District Court decision rendered by Judge William B. Jones in April of this year.

Furuer, this decision effectively eliminates the sole legal services program, which under minority group direction has successfully provided hundreds of minority group lawyers and hundreds of other innovative, committed young lawyers to provide legal services to the poor of this country.

Last, and by no means least, this decision adversely reflects on the entire staff of the Reginald Heber Smith Program, and particularly on Howard University. I have joined with other Congressmen in an attempt to save the program at Howard University.

Recently, Judge Joseph Howard and Judge Robert Hammerman argued persuasively, during a television debate, that the poor do not receive equal treatment under the law. The actions referred to in this column will, I fear, lessen the chance for the poor to receive equality under the law.

Time and time again blacks and the poor have been admonished to use the law to bring about social change. Apparently, the law and order Nixon Administration, especially through OEO, does not want us to heed such admonishment.

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: Does the Internal Revenue Service pay interest to the taxpayer when it is later in issuing a refund?

ANSWER: Yes.

However, the IRS has 45 days from the due date of the return or the date of filing, whichever is later, to issue a refund without payment of interest.

If it takes longer than that, interest at an annual rate of 6 per cent from the due date or the date of filing, whichever is later, is added to the refund.

QUESTION: I went shopping May 10 at Security Square Mall Shopping Center with my 11-year-old daughter and my neighbor's 13-year-old daughter.

At about 7:45 p.m., I had completed my shopping and headed for the parking lot.

A crowd was gathering around the door of the department store watching a plainclothesman or store detective wildly shooting at a running man.

I then went to another exit to get to the car.

The two children fled to the car to hide, only to be in the gunman's range.

My car was used as an armrest for him to get an aim at the fleeing man.

The gun-toting fool shot over the car, scaring the girls half to death, while they laid on the car floor trembling.

I don't know what type of crime the unarmed running man committed, but it wasn't as bad as that of the untrained official gunman, who placed hundreds of lives in danger.

It makes me sick.

What can you find out about this incident?

F. D. B.

ANSWER: All the officials involved denied to AFRO LINE that any shooting took place.

This includes David Zook, Security Square Mall manager; and security guards McGuire and Bobby Collins, both of whom are also Baltimore County policemen.

As Baltimore County policemen, they are allowed to carry their weapons on their persons at all times throughout the state, even when acting in an off-duty capacity as a private security officer.

An arrest was made that night of a shoplifter, aged 30, who was subdued after a vigorous fight on the shopping center parking lot inthe presence of about 300 by-standers.

QUESTION: Sun., May 20, a black police officer and a white police officer were suspended for fighting at the Northwestern Police District station.

From what I've heard the black officer was trying to prevent the white officer from brutally beating a 15-year-old black youth in the operations room.

When the black officer lodged a formal complaint, he was told by his superiors "You'd better drop this or we'll start pulling skeletons from your closet."

To pacify the black officer, both men were returned to duty.

As for the youth he was held by the Juvenile Court for three days before his mother was notified.

What can you find out about this?

A. P.

ANSWER: AFRO LINE has learned that both officers have returned to duty, while the youth was arraigned in Juvenile Court Tuesday for possession of a deadly weapon, a bread knife.

The youth has been released on hiw own recognizance to the custody of his mother, and his trial will be in about three weeks.

As for the incident between the two officers, and the black officer's complaint, Dennis Hill, police public information officer, told AFRO LINE that the department's Internal Investigation Division is now looking into the matter.

PAGE OPPOSITE

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

Call To Churchgoers

Dear AFRO:

Churchgoers ought to be speaking up in public worship and in public meetings as the incredible amount of dishonesty unravels at the center of our national government.

It is time for integrity in human affairs.

It is time for penitence and self-examination. And, it is time to stand before God, the judge, in prayer.

Religious leaders across the nation are requesting that President Nixon meet with the leaders of the nation's churches and to converse with them concerning the issues of ethics and morality in government.

We are concerned in regards to the moral leadership in government and are encouraging a response to our concerns.

Further we call upon ourselves and all our sister churches and synagogues to hold this concern in their prayers and to voice their convictions.

As the gale of daily developments in the Watergate scandal whips us, we are literally dumbstruck. Most, waiting for the day in court, have a natural reluctance to lead to accusations — even as evidence mounts in public testimonies. But, surely the church has words for such a time.

What we have before us is the frightening spectre of government against the people. Few believe that this tragic development is universally pervasive in our society, or that our democratic practices have been so damaged that they cannot be repaired.

But, basic trusts have been violated, and indeed the violence that has been such a curse in our common life in these last years seems to have escalated to intentional lies, planned deception, manipulated psuedo-truths, power becomes idolatious, the invasion of privacy, hypocrisy in the highest places, breaking and entering and the buttressing of self-righteousness with religious and patriotic slogans.

THE REV. LORENZO C. HANDY

Chisel Anyone?

Dear AFRO:

When the Egyptians were displeased with a dynasty, they took chisels and removed the Pharaoh's name from all the monuments . . . Chisel anyone?

The testimony from the Watergate hearings show that it was not coincidence, but planning, which stopped the Muskie candidacy and bolstered McGovern as the easiest candidate to defeat. Suddenly when these facts are known, one begins to ask if planning stopped the Wallace candidacy? You tell yourself, no, no, it couldn't be possible . . . Yet the question continues to reverberate and send shock waves to the brain!

ELISSA WARD JOHNSON

Ada K. Jenkins

Dear AFRO:

Here are some of my personal thoughts about the late Adah K. Jenkins.

I met her 50 years ago when I moved to Baltimore. She welcomed me with great warmth and friendliness and our mutual love of music afforded us many rich experiences.

We played piano duets throughout the years and we especially enjoyed singing in the International Fellowship Choir. We looked forward to the monthly recitals by our piano students and also the concerts in the schools, churches and colleges.

Our attendance at the various workshops and noon hour concerts at the Peabody, the Baltimore Symphony concerts at the Lyric and the musical events at Constitution Hall in Washington provided many inspiring hours.

Adah's greatest dedication was her intense desire to instill in her students a real love and appreciation of good music. Great teacher and disciplinarian as she was, she constantly encouraged them, carefully criticized them and honestly praised them. They loved and respected her for this.

As a beloved member of the Piano Teachers Activities Group, she gave talents to further the work of this organization.

KATRINE N. WHITE

Plea For Dogs

Dear AFRO:

If the four men in the research sub lab @@@, it will indeed be bad. News items describe the impending death like a "baby putting a plastic bag over its head and slowly being strangled." This is the way dogs are destroyed in our city pound.

What's horrible for humans is also horrible and inexcusable (because it isn't accidental!) for dogs!

Dogs are not put to sleep, dear readers, they are strangled and suffocated to death!

B. J. SMALL

Thanks To AFRO

Dear AFRO:

Thanks very much for sending me your 80th anniversary edition, your Career Planning and Dawn, as well as your Living Text Book, which we will indeed use in the classroom. I also want to thank you for the space accorded us in your June 9 edition for commencement.

The AFRO has a fine tradition of reporting excellence, and it is a distinct pleasure for me to add my belated congratulations on your 80th anniversary.

RICHARD A. LANE
(Friends School)

Dear AFRO:

Many thanks for coming out in the 90 degree heat to help judge our Bird House Contest.

VIRGINIA S. BAKER
(Supervisor, Children's Activities & Publicity Bureau of Recreation)

Watergate

Dear AFRO:

Despots cling to vacant schemes,
pride and greed betray them;
Folks weaving pompous dreams find
sleep is not a friend.
Confusion rips the mask from youth's
fragrant holdings,
Leaving sand and ash beneath pink-
cheeked moldings.
Despots pick dead vision from each
crumpled hour,
Deepening the schism between
brotherhood and power.
They urge youth toward stumbling
down the path of blind accord . . . .
Bless their silent tumbling and bury
tomorrow's reward.

BEVERLY BRUCE HAVARD

Western Justice

Dear AFRO:

If the public's memory is not too short, it will recall that Hyman Pressman, controller of Baltimore City, made a hurried trip, in 1971 to the Western District police station to listen to and monitor the court of William H. Murphy Sr., District Court judge, as well as commiserate with the policemen who were complaining about so-called lenient sentences dispensed by Judge Murphy.

He used this trip to highlight personal publicity and his predictable ravin, and ranting about the system of court justice, even though as a lawyer, he had the right to go to the Judicial Disabilities Commission with his complaints, and also was using his position as a public figure to unethically make statements that were prejudicial to the court and untrue.

Where is his retraction now that 13 policemen in that District have been indicted for taking bribes? Where is his voice of justice and play acting as watchdog for the public?

It's an even bet that some of those same tattle-tale cops, as well as Hymi, could stand to have a judge on their case who is as fair and compassionate as Judge Murphy.

XYZ

Those Who Serve City Well

By G. JAMES FLEMING

It takes many kinds of persons and groups to make a good city — priests and politicians, lawyers and teachers, businessmen and busmen, cooks and policemen, physicians and musicians, ad infinition . . . .

But, so many other kinds of people can, and do, make a contribution, in one role or another.

This idea struck us most forcibly a few weeks ago when we attended the twentieth anniversary program of the Arena Players and the organization's eighth awards dinner.

Here was a black group, dedicated to the theater, which year after year, has presented the best plays of the ages, written by all the great playwrights. Here was an organization some of whose members had graduated to the Broadway stage and to other areas of professional theatre.

Hundreds of men and women, have not only studied acting, but they have followed a hobby, enriching both to themselves and the entire community. Through the Arena Players, Baltimoreans have had an opportunity to see the best of whites and blacks stage.

Samuel Wilson, the founder, and his co-workers, have not only fought racial discrimination as it existed on the American stage; but they have done something affirmatively to overcome it. They have not allowed racial practices, set by others, to prevent them from their own self-development.

They have gone about their daily work, as teachers, ministers, civil servants and housewives, but at nights and over weekends they have worked on the stage as though their lives depended on it.

The Arena's 20th anniversary was a glittering reminder of how important it is not to let anyone keep us down in the gutters; even more important not o keep ourselves there.

Baltimore is fortunate in having other volunteer, non-profit groups that, through efforts at their own self-development, have also helped to make Baltimore a good city, a cultured city, and a beautiful city (if only in spots).

Two women's organizations are particularly well known.

They are the DuBois Circle, founded in 1906, and The Philomathians, founded in 1932, both of which, ten months a year, gather to hear a discussion of some useful, intellectual or cultural topic.

Their annual closing meetings, in May of each year, to which they invite a large segment of the public, are anxiously awaited events.

There is the Book-a-Month Club which, for 47 years, has also met monthly to hear the review of some substantial book. One of the notable customs of this group is that one-half of its members, more or less, come to each review after having also read the book to be reviewed.

As this writer visits other cities, speaking to different groups, he is always excitedly pleased to tell of those women, 67 years ago, and others 40 and more years ago who, despite all the depressing signs of racism in the land, dropped their buckets down where they were or, to change figures, decided to pull themselves up by their own bootstraps.

These organizations have been part of what makes black Baltimore what it is in ways of "quality," despite all the criticisms that can be made against the city. Without them the city would be much uglier.

A much later entry into this women's thrust is The Pierians, organized 15 years ago. This group, whose main interest is in the visual arts, also sponsors the opening of an annual art exhibit at, and for, Morgan State College, and has also presented gifts of paintings to the college.

There are other similar organizations, some of them composed of males. The Greek-letter societies, some church guilds, and alumni organizations, for instance, sponsor musical groups, such as the Hampton Institute Choir, the Morehouse Glee Club and children's theatre. All of these different groups also contribute to the "tone" of black Baltimore at its best.

No salute to those who try to build the good and beautiful city can be made without including our incumbent mayor, William Donald Schaefer for his efforts to bring a touch of the beauty here.

G. JAMES FLEMING

Last summer he organized downtown for a series of open-air concerts on the Federal Plaza. From 8,000 to 10,000 people gathered several nights each week "under the stars" (and in perfect harmony) to hear the best of all kinds of music — music by performers of all racial backgrounds, heard by audiences of all racial and religious backgrounds.

This year the mayor is engineering another innovation — the colorful open-air restaurant-cafe on the War Memorial Plaza. As one patron said, "a bit of Paris."

NOW and THEN

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)

A Column Of CHOICE

Right To Read Needed For Youngsters

By MARION BANFIELD

Several days ago a beautiful picture appeared in a local newspaper.

It was a photograph of Dr. Roland Patterson, our school superintendent, Mrs. Valerie Brown, a teacher at Samuel Coleridge School and her first grade pupil Darryell Drumgoole.

Yes, it's true. That first grade child from an inner city school, Pennsylvania and West Preston St. area was reading at fourth grade level.

Dr. Patterson had good reason to smile. There in his office was proof of his conviction that children have a right to read.

Mrs. Brown has a small class, judging by the news article. Darryell reads at fourth grade level. Eight children read at second grade level. The remaining nine read at first-grade level.

I'm not sure where black parents will fit in the new reorganization plan.

I am sure that black parents need to get it through their heads that their children have the right to read.

PTAs or any kind of parent organization need to be sure that every child is taught to read.

Let's not get hung up on how poor or rich our children are.

The important thing is not to allow an attitude of hopelessness and rejection to crush the ability of our children to learn.

It is significant to me that Mrs. Valerie Brown had only 18 children to teach.

If teacher unions can't be bothered about class sizes, then parents and the Board of School Commissioners need to deal with the reality of this problem, especially at the elementary level. Some excellent teachers simply cannot cope effectively with 25 to 35 children at the primary level.

Bet you Fallstaff Middle School won't have 25 pupils in classes!

Parents need to get wise to the fact that class sizes are more determined by money and habit than by needs of pupils. After all, small class sizes of 15 to 20 children are what attracts many parents to private schools.

Would it be better to use older materials and hire more teachers to serve our pupils?

If pupils from intellectually oriented affluent, disciplined, backgrounds thrive best in small groups, why are large classes so popular for so many children burdened with the personal problems common to poverty?

Previously, I suggested that there be more individuality among our schools.

There are some neighborhoods where children have more special personal needs than in a school several blocks away.

We need to make sure that a child's report card reflects his variety of abilities. Parents should not accept a child's getting poor grades in reading and other subjects simply because of bad conduct.

Bad behavior is bad behavior. It is not poor reading, spelling, counting skill.

MARION BANFIELD

This city's Right to Read program is directed by a very capable and sensitive woman, Dr. Rebecca Carroll.

Our choice for groups of parents is to contact Dr. Carroll and work toward getting reading taught to every elementary school child before that youngster reaches the sixth grade.

It's NOT A Man's World

Speaking Out On Women's Oppression

By BERNICE S. WHITE

One very stimulating article on black women and the women's movement appeared in the spring 1973 issue of the "Civil Rights Digest."

Author of the article was Ms. Margaret Sloan, a current editor and writer for Ms. Magazine. She has also been actively involved for the past 10 years in the liberation of oppressed people. Ms. Sloan is now active in the women's movement, speaking out about the duality of the oppression of black women.

Following are excerpts from Ms. Sloan's statement.

"There are a lot of, excuse the expression, misconceptions about the women's movement. Now, I realize ignorance on the matter is not going away, so I'll explain why a black woman would be involved in a woman's movement.

"People do a couple of things with me. They get into the priority game with me, you know, 'Which comes first the chicken or the egg?' and 'Where are your loyalties?' And then they start asking, "What do you feel allegiance to, the black or the woman?

"It would be very easy for me if the oppressor would split up the week and say from Monday to Wednesday we are going to mess over her because she's female, and the rest of the week we are going to put her down because she's black. It would be much easier, but it doesn't happen that way. So, I find from my experience that I can't separate my identity that way.

"Now I think that women are beginning to take themselves seriously a lot more in general, and black women in specific. I think it is particularly hard for black women because we look around us and we see absolutely no positive self-images to validate our existence. I think it is very hard to celebrate yourself if you have to dig a pancake box image.

"But it's changing. People still say to me though, that women, particularly black women, don't go along with the women's movement. I find this funny because when I'm talking to black women about the movement, I start asking about equal pay for comparable work. They say "Right on." I start talking about reproductive freedom, and they say, "Yes." I start talking about child care centers, and they say, "Right on."

"Somehow I think the term "Women's Liberation" is what ridicules the movement and drives some women away from it. Now I know a lot of women are going to college and getting an education.

"But when they get out, they're only going to make half of what a man makes, so if they think they're making progress, well, I just feel sorry for them.

"Here's what I want to say about our men. They're victims of stereotyping the same way women are. The things we put on our boy children are ridiculous expectations. What is it to be a man?

"Men are judged by the size of their paychecks and other things. We tell men that real men don't cry. We tell them they've got to go off and kill people of another country to prove that they are men. We tell them to beat each other up in bars on Saturday night as a means of handling their differences. All these images of what it is to be a man are rather sickening.

"In the book "Seize the Time," Bobby Seale says, "In the Panther household everyone sweeps the floor, everybody makes the bed, and everybody makes a revolution because real manhood depends on the subjugation of no one."

IF YOU ASK ME

By BETTYE MOSS

Not-so-gracious-Baltimore note: Just when we were agreeing with Mayor Schaefer that Baltimore is a good city and kind to visitors, comes word that a visitor in our gates was not treated so kindly last week.

Harry Greeves, governor of Bongo, one of the largest counties in Liberia, was turned away from a downtown restaurant because he was wearing his native garb instead of an American jacket.

Miss Roberta Gill, the attorney, who accompanied him, reports she was greatly embarrassed, particularly after the management was adamant even though she explained the would-be luncheon guest was a foreign visitor.

After an exchange at the door, the couple was finally admitted but ushered to a rear room behind the dining room, Ho hum!

Smile department: People are still laughing with that nervy student who ignored the graduation eve note which said she was minus sufficient credits to get a diploma.

Even though her name was not called, she walked in the procession and remained in the front of the stage until, in desperation, officials called her name. She got a blank paper, not a diploma. Honest!

People being kind to others: New Bethlehem Baptist Church honors its pastor, the Rev. Thomas R. Taylor at a banquet on June 29 at Holiday Inn on Park Heights Ave.

People looking and sounding good: Charles G. Tildon Jr. presided with grace at the 32nd annual dinner meeting of the Citizen's Planning and Housing Association Tuesday evening at Fontaine Bleu.

He is the retiring president. New president is Ronald Blavatt. Vice presidents include Del. Walter Dean (D-5th).

Charles McC. Mathias Jr., Maryland's senior U.S. senator, was dinner speaker.

Mayor W. Donald Schaefer was present to assist in awards to Morris Danoff, housing inspector of the year, and Mrs. Mary Pat Clarke, winner of the Frances Morton Froelicher civic statesmanship award for her work in the Homewood area.

Get well cards, please, to Mrs. Shirley E. Muldrow who is recuperating at Maryland General Hospital, Room 609. She is in traffic with C and P Telephone.

We're there: — Dr. Sidney Kobre, Community College of Baltimore prof, postcards from Boston: "We found this a great educational and cultural center: 55 colleges, 200,000 students."

"We bought the AFRO-AMERICAN editions at the newsstand near the Boston Commons! You are far up in Yankee country when you distribute here!"

Cuff Note: M. Goldseker Co., longtime real estate firm, lost its owner, Morris Goldseker. He died Friday.

The younger set 'put it all together' at a fashion show and luncheon last Sunday at St. Mark's United Methodist Church. It was the Sunday School's first endeavor. Very nice.

Graduation notes: This year's female grads, especially those who wore the caps and gowns, had a hard time maneuvering down the Civic Center steps to get their diplomas.

Reason: Most of them wore the current rage, the platform shoes.

Dunbar High School graduation audience learned that 25 of their Some of the young men did, too. grads have already been employed by C and P Telephone Co., at the going rate.

Winner of the Douglass High scholarship named for late AFRO publisher Carl Murphy is Miss Arlene Margie Blackwell, daughter of Mrs. Margie Blackwell, Ellicott Drive. She resides with her grandmother, Mrs. Beatrice Blackwell. Her dad is Hurley C. Blackwell of Poplar Grove St.

Miss Blackwell also won a scholarship and spent five weeks in New Mexico.

In the fall, she plans to attend St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Walter Royal III, 18, of Moreland Avenue, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter (Doris) Royal, finished Gilman High School with honors.

He received an etching of the school for his outstanding services and won a scholarship to Howard University. He is also a National Achievement finalist.

He has four sisters, Mrs. Willexia Meadowlark, a city teacher; Mrs. Aletha Saunders, who is studying at the Helena Fuld School of Nursing; Miss Hiawatha Royal, a student at Community College of Baltimore and Miss Adana Royal, who attends Northwestern High.

MRS. MOSS