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 NOVEMBER 17 1973

Tuesday's Elections

Now that the returns from Tuesday's elections are in, some observations are in order concerning the recent elections.

What do the results prove? What voting trends are suggested? And, has the public's mood changed significantly since the last elections? These are some of the questions now being asked.

Some, of course, would argue that the results do not prove anything. But generally speaking, these are the same persons who purposely desire to ignore trends that fly in the face of their own preferences.

Among other things, it appears that the voters are now supporting persons and issues which are broader and less controversial than in the recent past.

For example, none of the Washington School Board candidates who espoused radical politics are elected. Even an incumbent board member was defeated — possibly an indication that the citizenry here did not agree with his "all or nothing" stance on Home Rule for the nation's capital.

Instead, the voters chose — among the black candidates — a well-seasoned educator and past administrator, and a middle-of-the-road physician.

The electorate also paid least attention to a candidate whose admitted views were contrary to those of new superintendent Barbara Sizemore, and her PACTS program of all-community involvement.

And over in College Park, Md. a 95 percent-white community, a black mayor was elected, Dervey A. Lomax.

This was, by anyone's standards, a notable and historic "plus" for that town. (The other Prince George's County towns have black mayors; but they are both largely-black jurisdictions).

Lomax was also a moderate candidate who has been noted for "looking at all sides of the problems."

Three other factors make his selection more important: he lives in the black area of College Park; he eschewed the student vote of the University of Maryland campus there; and he was elected in a county which otherwise put staunch white segregationists on its School Board.

We praise the voters of that town who were able to transcend the boundaries of race and vote for a man who has the interests of all the population at heart.

But the elections also point up the need for greater unity among us.

In Prince George's County, black candidates competing against each other for the same position on the School Board, effectively divided the vote, giving important weight to whites.

In areas where the black vote is crucial to the outcome, yet in the minority, it would seem better for one to bow out of the race, in order that some representation be assured.

In fact, the black community might do well to demand that this occur in future, similar situations.

Finally, the low voter turn-out of less than 7 per cent cannot be ignored, despite what anyone says.

We are certain that nothing has to be done to "prove" our right or ability to govern ourselves in the District — not even astounding turn-out percentages at the polls.

On the other hand, the poor showing certainly stands for something. In our opinion, a number of factors contributed to this, not the least of which was the non-partisan nature of the elections.

If the new Home Rule bill provides for partisan races in city-wide elections in the future — and we have been informed that it will — more excitement would undoubtedly be displayed.

Weather Note

With the talk of energy crisis, shortage of fuel oil for the hard winter months ahead at this week before Thanksgiving, Baltimore residents have reason to offer special thanks.

The week's balmy weather with temperatures in the high 60's and low 70's is most welcome.

While we may complain that it's too cool in the morning and perhaps in the late evenings, it is a fact that we have not had to turn the burners on for sustained periods because the weather man has been good.

So, we should count our blessings and hope and pray that the weather man will give us moderate weather as we progress into winter.

Patuxent, Again

Periodically, for the last five years the state's maximum security institution at Jessup, Md., has spelled 'trouble.'

Opened in 1955, Patuxent is supposed to be a facility which provides temporary care and psychiatric treatment for adult criminal offenders found to be defective delinquents and for defendants referred by the courts for diagnosis pending disposition.

What has bothered many inmates, their families and the community is that instead of offering sensitive evaluation and psychiatric, psychological and medical help, coupled with modern education, vocational and recreation programs, Patuxent has turned out to be more of a prison, unresponsive to the special needs of its patients.

Last week's latest uprising resulted in charges and counter charges by inmates, guards and officials. Claims of brutality, harsh punishment and related accusations have resulted. The facility adds up $3,000 in damages.

It would seem that the Department of Correction which supervises Patuxent, and Governor Mandel who names the governing board, ought to take prompt, positive measures to correct Patuxent's delinquencies before it is too little and too late.

If Patuxent can not give the quality of services needed to live up to its original charge, it should be abandoned. Two years ago, the courts established guidelines for reforms to help the state diagnose its failures at the institution. These were not fully implemented.

In its August, 1973 report, the National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals includes this appraisal by the chairman of the U.S. Board of Parole:

"To put it bluntly, the field of correction is experiencing a crisis in public confidence, and the crisis shows no signs of abating. Unlike times past, we can't expect to handle the problem by letting it wear itself out . . ."

The state of Maryland can ill afford to let Patuxent continue down its crisis path. Responsible, modern reforms are needed NOW.

DMV At Mondawmin

Baltimore City's 4th District delegate, Lloyal Randolph is exactly right.

Critics, like Del Charles Avera of Baltimore City's 6th district who would discredit the plans to locate the Department of Motor Vehicles' branch office in the Mondawmin Shopping complex, make irresponsible innuendos and avoid the main issue.

Del. Randolph, who lives in the city near the shopping center, points out that removal of the Baltimore Motor Vehicle office from its present crowded quarters at Monument and Howard Sts., in downtown Baltimore, is a step in the right direction.

The State Board of Public Works, has authorized the relocation, indicating it is sensitive to the needs of the city and its citizens.

At present, residents who need auto tags or renewals, driving tests, or have other business with this state licensing bureau must travel to Glen Burnie, or take a chance on finding a parking place near the inadequate downtown headquarters.

In Mondawmin, DMV would occupy adequate, comfortable rental quarters in a shopping center building, formerly Sears Department Store.

On the site leased by Northwest Corporation, Inc., there would be ample parking space and headquarters convenient to area motorists, plus a driver testing range not now offered at the downtown office.

Del. Randolph notes that with location of the DMV office at Mondawmin, there is projection that other state, city and federal offices, as well as retail and commercial enterprises, will avail themselves of the spacious location to provide services for thousands of citizens.

If the city is to survive, shopping centers and businesses in the heart of the black community, must prosper. They can only do so if they are conveniently located and have what people want.

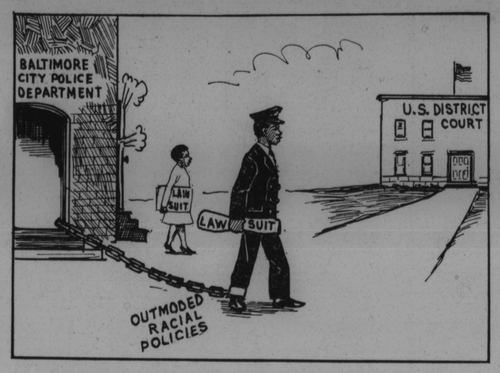
Sixth District Delegate Avera centers his criticism on the fact that the new site is leased by the Northwest Corporation, headed by businessmen William Adams, Wilbur Reich Jr. and Ellis H. Goodman, and infers their five-year lease has political overtones.

Maybe it does, but we live in a political society and the more important thing, we think, is to give support to Mondawmin so that it can remain a viable development. It can not do so unless it has substantial business interests.

Those who have taken steps to see that it remains a community asset deserve commendation.

Del. Avera might well address himself to doing the same sort of thing for the Sixth District in which he lives which covers the Cherry Hill area, which could certainly benefit from wide community-based support.

One Way To Take The Shackles Off



Police Department Faces Suits

An Editorial

For sometime this newspaper has commented editorially on the flagrant racial discrimination in the Baltimore City Police Department and asked that Police Commissioner Donald D. Pomerleau take affirmative steps to correct the inequities himself, or with the help of an equal opportunities specialist.

To our knowledge, this has not been done.

Of 3,379 persons on the Baltimore City Police Department force, only 449 are black and the majority of them, 399, are in the lowest category of patrolmen.

Only 26 are employed at the officer level. In fact, the breakdown at the top shows just 1 lieutenant colonel, 3 majors, 2 captains, 4 lieutenants and 16 sergeants.

Just on the face of it, these figures of a law-making department in a city half black are inexcusable, and we might add, criminal.

So we are glad to note this week two suits filed in U.S. District Court which address themselves to the entire problem and are likely to go down in history as landmark cases.

Civil case No. 73i105, was filed by the Vanguard Justice Society, Inc., a non-profit organization of black policemen, the NAACP and five individual police employees, Rebeekah L. Blackston, Victor B. Dennis, Melvin P. Freeman, Earl I. Nesbitt and Paulette G. Nixon, on behalf of themselves and other aggrieved parties.

Plaintiffs in the second suit No. 73i106, are Barbara A. Gumpman and Linda Barksdale on behalf of themselves and others who have been excluded from hiring and promotional opportunities because of their sex.

Defendants in both of these actions are Gov. Marvin Mandel, Police Commissioner Donald D. Pomerleau, members of the Baltimore City Service Commission, Baltimore City Councilmen and Baltimore City Mayor William Donald Schaefer.

Attorneys Kenneth L. Johnson and Anne F. Hoffman, noting that both suits allege discrimination in race and sex, have asked that they be consolidated for trial.

Both suits charge the policies and practices of the Baltimore City Police Department are in violation of the U.S. Constitution and federal laws, and seek an injunction to halt such practices and policies, as well as back pay, damages, attorney's fees and other relief for the "irreparable injury."

The suits further voice complaints AFRO readers have heard regularly that the Police Department is discriminatory in its recruitment, job classification, hiring, assignments, promotions, transfers, discipline, discharges, training program, compensation, etc.

As a result, the department has been able to maintain the lopsided employment figures we listed above.

In listing some of the acts which have led to this unequal hiring pattern, the suit points up that there are outdated weight and height requirements for female applicants, racially segregated units, arbitrary rating and promotion systems, which perpetuate racial and sexual discrimination and assignments, promotions and transfers to high level jobs.

Of particular importance is that portion of the suit which charges tests are still used against blacks and females as a condition of employment and promotion, and that such exams are culturally biased and made more difficult when large numbers of blacks and female workers are expected to apply.

AFRO readers will applaud the position of the plaintiffs when they claim that discriminatory practices in the police department are not limited to employment, but extend to the operation of the Department itself.

They allege there is overpolicing for some black areas in the city, underpolicing in others, as well as stopping and harassing black persons on the streets at a significantly higher rate than whites.

The plaintiffs in the first suit are represented by Kenneth L. Johnson and the two female plaintiffs in the second suit by Anne F. Hoffman of the Women's Law Center.

AFRO readers will watch carefully the progress in these two legal actions, just as they did similar action filed against the Baltimore City Fire Department which set the stage for the overhauling of the city agency's employment and promotion proceedings.

The laws of the land assure protection and redress for deprivation of rights. When public agencies fail to obey the law, the redress is in the courts.

A little About a LOT

The Energy Crisis - What It Means

By Madeline W. Murphy

The nation now faced with yet another crisis, the fuel shortage, has every reason to wonder if in fact this shortage is real, or another cover-up.

For over a half century, oil, gas, (atomic energy a bit later), and coal, have been political footballs tossed around to gain international control over energy markets, by seven major oil companies, who dominate the business — Standard Oil of New Jersey, Shell, Gulf, Texaco, Standard Oil of California, Socony-Mobil, and British Petroleum.

Not only are they in the drilling business, controlling from well-head to consumer, but they also hold great interests in tankers being built to transport the billions of gallons of crude oil around the world.

Hand in hand has been the U.S. government, which provides extraordinary tax incentives, cheap oil and coal leases on the vast coal lands in the public domain concentrated in Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming and Colorado, where they have controlled production to keep prices up.

Is it any wonder, therefore, why government has been reluctant, to go all out for air quality control standards?

James Ridgeway in his book "The Politics of Ecology," writes, "The government might use these lands to influence the development and transmission of energy according to a public policy.

"Instead under both Johnson and Nixon, the government virtually gives away the land to big oil companies, which squat on it without working the coal . . . through the Interior department's Bureau of Land Management."

Why is coal so important to the fuel crisis? Because as far back as 1926, the Germans found a way of making gasoline from coal.

"The Germans had plenty of coal but little oil," says Ridgeway. "This announcement upset Standard Oil of N.J., which feared the Germans actually might become self-sufficient in gasoline production and the two giants made a deal promising, in effect, not to meddle in the markets of one another.

"Joint companies were set up for research and patents were exchanged. This led to the Germans getting technical know-how from Jersey Standard that enabled their air force during the Second World War to depend almost entirely on gas made from coal."

And so the culprits in the energy crisis are not the shortages so quickly seized upon to divert, to gain power, to build panic in the hearts and actions of the masses, but the major oil companies.

They have controlled the production of natural gas by capping wells, of oil, and of coal by not developing lands leased from the U.S.

They have diversified in cosmetics, fertilizers, plastics, etc., so that shortages are regulated to their benefit and greater profit. And in the meantime, they have lobbied for and obtained quotas on foreign imports of oil to cut down competition.

Against this background, unbridled power, as Mandel and Nixon request, should be stopped at all costs.

"The oil companies, "according to Ridgeway, "want to control coal partly because coal competes with oil and natural gas, but also because they recognize the potential for turning coal into gasoline.

"Gasoline is the major money maker for oil men, and they want to keep tight hold of any development in that field.

"To do so, oil firms buy coal companies; they also lobby hard within the Federal government to make sure development of coal is forestalled." (And at the same time increase the price of gasoline.)

Alas, another cover up of the so called energy crisis will not blanket us against thereal chills, drafts and discomforts of a long cold winter, nor protect us against impending gasoline rationing.

This, however, is the price we have paid for non-involvement; greed and corruption in government, which began long before the Nixon administration, but which has escalated at a rapid pace in these last five years.

As we grow more aware that duplicity in government stretches through Congressmen, who are controlled by the oil lobby, to Cabinet members and underlings, with veiled allegiance to vested interests in gas, oil and coal companies, to a President who is merely the last in a long chain of towel boys in the blatant prostitution of our rights, where will it all end?

Meanwhile, the record is clear that oil companies, including laundered money, plumbers, dirty dollars and secret donors, have not kept Richard M. Nixon from the "people's business," when one views his national priorities, as they relate to his 1973 vetoes in legislation concerning minimum wage, emergency medical service, disaster loan relief, confirmation of budget officers, vocational rehabilitation, water and sewerage, supplemental appropriations.

In addition, impoundment or cuts in funds for education, school milk subsidies, Job Corps, hospital construction, housing, rural environmental assistance, manpower training and water pollution control.

(The Leakin Park Improvement Association evidently in their petition and love for RMN, should know about this before they continue getting signatures to block his resignation or impeachment.)

With this record, Congress should hang its head in shame, rather than gloat over its first victory in overriding Nixon's veto on war making powers. Let us hope they've found their backbones at last!

"America is in trouble today not because her people have failed, but because her leaders have failed. And what America needs are leaders to match the greatness of her people."—Richard M. Nixon, 1968. SAY AMEN, CHURCH!

DMV At Mondawmin

A Column Of CHOICE

By Marion Banfield

"Fact-Light!" sheet of the Public School Teachers Association is an interesting exposure of how professional educators handle their responsibilities.

It seems that some believe that teachers punch time clocks like assembly-line workers.

Since teachers expect to be respected in their positions, some of them need to realize that respect even extends to black men hired to be in a position of authority regardless of physical stature.

After feeling discouraged by the PSTA publication, I was encouraged by the genuine concern of teachers at Abraham Lincoln School No. 141, 300 N. Payson St.

The PTA, under the presidency of Wallace T. Gregory, set aside a portion of its first meeting to honor the dedicated persons who staffed a month-long voluntary "mini summer school" during July 1973 for pupils in kindergarten through grade 4.

Six teachers served without monetary compensation. Mr. Thomas Thanel, Mesdames Doris Bryan, Gloria Dorsey, Genevieve Fields, Melba Logan and Miss Marian Givens cared enough to join with others in stimulating the learning of children.

Three children's aides, Mrs. Addie Brown, Mrs. Ruth Drew and Mrs. Shirley White under the leadership of Mrs. Glasiel, Smith along with the six teachers constituted the Instructional Team.

Miss Regina Sewell and Miss Cynthia Moore served as librarians. A high school student, Miss Cindy Hall, was the Music Resource Helper. Mrs. Edith Meredith was the Parent Aide.

Several community resources were involved in planning and implementing the program.

The Community Action Agency No. 24 directed by James McNamara and Mrs. Hazel Harris provided lunches, arranged a film program, Enoch Pratt Bookmobile and a corps of Neighborhood Youth Aides.

Breakfast and school supplies were donated through the efforts of the Rev. Adah Jones.

Model Cities Agency and the Department of Education provided bus trips. Mrs. Rosalind R. Lee is the principal fortunate enough to be at this school.

A choice is for other PTA's to develop the kind of relationship between teachers and parents that will be as creative as School No. 141.

A choice is for parents and teachers to visit School No. 141 and try to rind out why children in this school have done so well on Iowa Reading Tests.

80 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)

WASHINGTON REPORT

Big Brother

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

The Watergate climate of tricks, deceptions and lies produces a similar climate at the local level.

At both levels, a gestapo-like surveillance and system of control is required if the climate is to be kept.

Such tactics were recently revealed at the University of Maryland.

The university has long delayed in submitting a satisfactory desegregation plan to HEW.

Its racially discriminatory policies in hiring and promoting black employees resulted in complaints being filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

When it became known that the EEOC Investigation would begin, strange things happened.

First, a memorandum was circulated advising key university personnel that "your faculty and staff should be told if investigators from EEOC or any other law enforcement agencies ask for personnel or student information or seek interviews, such requests should be denied . . . only after consultation should such requests be honored (clear it with John Dean or Erlichman).

This memorandum was immediately, and I say properly, attacked by the on-campus members of the Maryland State Teacher's Association.

This attack caused the Vice-Chancellor to say that the memo was designed to protect the confidentiality of the faculty and students, "it is not designed to cover anything in the administration (this action was taken in the interest of national security).

The issue then went to the highest echelons in the White House, strike that, I meant to say in the university.

The University of Maryland Chancellor, Charles E. Bishop, advised faculty they were free to say what they wanted to anyone but defended the memorandum saying "that the EEOC is empowered to investigate anonymous complaints, and if investigators came to the campus to make charges without specifying the source of these charges would be in violation of due process."

(There is nothing wrong with this administration, it is the vicious, antagonistic press which incites the people and tries to turn them against this administration.)

I do not lay blame on the author of the memorandum. I do not lay blame on the Vice-Chancellor, nor other officials, including Chancellor Bishop.

They were unfortunately, like so many others, touched by the Watergate climate.

Now the modus operandi is cover by deception; divert attention from the issue by any means; and justify wrong doing by providing faculty interpretations of civil liberties, due process and executive-academic privilege.

The Tim Said it wrong. He should have said, "God help us everyone!"

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 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.

From the Dec. 25, 1920 papers of JOHN H. MURPHY SR., founder of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper, August 13, 1892.

PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro American

A-5 NOVEMBER 17, 1973

Our Readers Say

Readers are invited to submit letters for publication. All letters must be signed, but signature will be omitted if requested. Letters should be no more than 200 words in length. Address them to 'Our Readers Say,' Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

S. Africa Sanctions

Dear AFRO:

I am an Afro American and a subscriber to your newspaper. I am writing to inform you that the United Nations has declared economic sanctions be placed against South Africa because of its system of apartheid and oppression.

I assume you are not aware of this because you have not informed your constituents that some Baltimore businesses do trade with South Africa, violating international law and contributing to the dehumanization of millions of black people in South Africa.

You, (AFRO), are supposed to be the voice of the black community. Why not use your "so-called" power of the press to advise your readers to discontinue trade with businesses that continue to finance the economy of South Africa.

As black people, we have a common bond to our brothers — be they in South Africa or South Baltimore. With this in mind I would like to make some suggestions.

To begin with, if you (AFRO) do business with Maryland National Bank, discontinue it. They make loans to South Africa. Gulf Oil Corp. practices racism by financing the racist South African government. This should be exposed.

You should not publish ads for either of the above named corporations. You could do a real service to the people by informing them of the names of U.S. corporations financing a government that brutally oppresses millions of black people. We should know that buying a bottle of Portuguese wine supports black slavery.

(PEACE BROTHERS)

(Editor's Note: This letter was signed by Concerned Citizens who identified themselves as Gregory Lewis, Karen Robinson, Rudolph L. Bell, Mel Bailey, Charles Porter, A. R. Bell, Joseph McDonald.

Apparently, they seldom read their AFRO.

We've repeatedly had stories on the South African sanctions and loan situation, including a local credit union that pulled thousands of dollars out of Maryland National because of its loan policy.

The Gulf Oil boycott, which we frequently feature, has to do mostly with its Angola dealings. We do not refuse ads from firms or candidates (or letters from writers) with whom we disagree, but they do not affect our editorial views. Brothers, we can't influence people if they don't read us.)

Nixon Knows

Dear AFRO:

I believe Nixon knows what happened to the tapes. Please ask the voters to write to their congressman, or call in and get Nixon out of office, because he is just messing up.

Dale Anderson is doing a good job for everybody, and I think if he runs again, I hope he wins.

I want the Democrats to wake up and get Nixon out of there.

HERBERT PARKER

Arab Oil

Dear AFRO:

Arabs have been in business for centuries (long before America was discovered) and know all the tricks of the trade — and can no doubt show us a few ancient ones we never knew.

We didn't invent the law of supply and demand — it isn't our exclusive property — Arab oil producers have a right to use it, too.

They know Arab oil will dry up in 20 years and they must act now to make the most of it. Twenty years is a long time in your life and mine, but like a fleeting second in terms of the world. We cannot fault them for trying to make a buck — this is the nature of the beast (capitalism) — they do it; we do it. But they should be faulted for placing a higher priority on oil, than on blood — their own Arab blood as well as Israeli blood! This is sad.

B. J. SMALL

Arundel Sale

Dear AFRO:

I wish to extend my congratulations and best wishes to the 11 black citizens with business foresight and faith who form the Business Opportunities For Progress Inc., for their purchase of the long established Arundel Ice Cream Co. and its branch stores.

Also to be commended is the Council for Equal Business Opportunities Inc., which facilitated the purchase.

If our economic strength is to develop, then we must increase our business ventures. And our business ventures, whenever worthy, should be supported and patronized unhesitantly.

DEL. LLOYD RANDOLPH
(Chairman, Black Caucus, Maryland General Assembly)

Clean Block In Schools

Dear AFRO:

Let me first express my gratitude for your column on Clean Block in Schools in the edition of Oct. 26, 1973. In English our children have written compositions on how to keep our school clean.

Each morning, I read one of these over the intercom with the hope that it will bear fruit. I have selected three which include one from each grade level I wish to share with you and your readers, how our children are thinking about this problem.

ISAIAH E. WHITE
(Principal, Gwynns Falls Junior High.)

"A clean environment is important to us all. It makes us proud to know that our school can be tidy at all times. Our school grounds are so dirty that it's a shame.

"We, as students, should not throw trash and litter on the ground, and there should be no writing or drawing on the walls or halls and stairways. We can stop these things if we try.

"We, as children, can help to do this job by picking up the trash and litter and placing them in refuse containers. In the cafeteria we can put our trays, bottles, boxes, dishes, and bags in the proper places.

"We should not misuse our lavatories. Our teachers can help by leading us in these things.

DARRYL BUTLER (Class 711)

"We can clean up our school by picking up trash wherever we see it inside or outside. If we as children and adults look at how dirty our school and school grounds are, we are expressing ourselves in a negative way.

"We are telling people around us and visitors that we are dirty. However, this is how most people think about black people. We can change this by putting trash and litter in the cans and cleaning up our school.

"We, the children, and adults of today must clean up our environment for the children and adults of tomorrow. They too must have a chance to live. Everybody has the right to the "tree of life."

SYLONIA PEARSON (Class 813)

"I am quite sure every one is aware of the big problem we have at School 91 in trying to keep both the inside and outside clean. We do not have enough help assigned to our school to do the job.

"Our school building is surrounded by trash. You find trash along the halls, in the classrooms, and in the lavatories.

There are broken windows in many of the classrooms. Really, it's a crying shame, but we don't have any one to blame but ourselves.

"We are the ones throwing trash around the building and in the halls. We are the ones who write on the doors and the walls. We are the ones who break out the windows and destroy school property. "We are the ones who have to suffer the good as well as the bad. We are the ones who have to be taught under these poor conditions.

"So you see, all the bad things are reflecting upon us because all of us are a part of 91. Everyone has to do his share in helping to make our school a cleaner and a more enjoyable place in which to learn.

CHERYL JONES (Class 910)

The President

Dear AFRO:

If war and his vetoes did not make President Nixon impeachable months ago, then he is not impeachable today.

I know it is fashionable now to say that our first two hundred year history began with a President who never told a lie and will be celebrated with a president who never told the truth, when in fact more truths have surfaced about government from this administration then all the others combined.

Mr. Nixon is proving to be our greatest crusader for a good government.

Because of him, politicians of both parties will face a politically wiser and more mature electorate. I can see his continuance in office as a constructive force in the growth of America.

If Mr. Nixon was the "one" when he was only disturbing those at the bottom, then he is no less the "one" now that he is also disturbing and embarrassing those at the top and middle.

Opinion polls that ask for Mr. Nixon's removal are telling him that they were wrong in supporting him last fall. Who is to say that they are not wrong in opposing him this fall.

How can you believe the President's arch-critics when they claim he is not capable of leading the country, yet during the recent "global alert" when the world was on the brink of unprecedented destruction, they fell in line, backing him up as one mind with no questions asked.

When forty-nine states voted for Mr. Nixon and you cannot get two-thirds of Congress to vote against him, then I say he is the people's choice and should be allowed to finish his term.—CHARLES E. THOMAS

NOW and THEN

Black Mayors Have No Bed Of Roses

By G. James Fleming

The rejoicing all over black America continues over the election of Coleman Young as the first black mayor of Detroit, so important an industrial city, so large (population 751,000), so important politically (with a black Congressman for several years), and so "progressive."

If the election, in 1967, of Carl Stokes, as mayor of Cleveland, and Richard Hatcher, as mayor of Gary, Indiana, could be called "Paradise Regained," by Chuck Stone, political commentator; then 1973 should have a special label, because blacks have been elected mayor in Los Angeles, Atlanta, and Detroit—all three very major cities.

In all three cities, however, the black candidates also required substantial support from white voters. (Altogether, there are 32 black mayors and 43 black vice-mayors in the USA.)

The victory in the Motor City—a mecca for blacks—has caused much discussion as to whether the time is now now for Baltimore, Philadelphia. Chicago, Richmond, Norfolk, and Birmingham also to elect Black mayors.

It has also caused some blacks, suspicious from past experiences, to look for the white man in the woodpile. They ask: "Why are whites turning over the political dominance of their cities to blacks?"

Some, instead of asking questions, give answers. In one way or another, they say, "When the white power structure turns over their cities, or anything else, to their women or to blacks, there is not much left in those cities or in whatever they turn over."

Others ask: "Can anyone run American cities?"

As other cities dream dreams and see visions about their own black mayor, it should be interesting to list Chuck Stone's "Nine Prerequisities For Electing A Black Mayor in A Major City."

Summarized, this is his list:

1. The black candidate must take himself seriously.

2. The bulk of the black community must believe the black candidate honestly has a chance to win.

3. No other black candidates (with no chance of winning) must not be allowed to remain in the mayoralty race;

4. A substantial part of the white community must be disenamored with the white candidate;

5. The major newspapers, and radio and TV stations, must back the black candidate or remain neutral.

6. There must be a minimum of one-third black voters in the city.

7. The black candidate must campaign as vigorously in white neighborhoods as in black;

8. The black candidate must contribute some funds, or be able to raise them, for his campaign.

9. The black candidate should belong to the party that usually wins mayoral elections.

This list may not be equally applicable for every city, but it may prove a useful yardstick as several communities discuss whether or not to run a black for mayor.

One question that it is most important for blacks to ask is, "Is this our year?" (Every aspiring group has to ask this question).

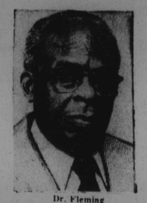
Blacks do not need to represent a majority of a city's population, according to Stone (in his Black Political Power in America), but they need to be substantial enough to furnish a bloc of voters that, with the help of labor and liberal whites, can win a mayoralty election.

In some middle-sized cities, a black mayoral candidate may be elected just because he has had a chance to demonstrate how superior he is as a leader, an executive, or a welder of the different segments of a city.

Examples are Mayor Howard Lee of Chapel Hill, N.C. or Mayor Matthew Carter of Montclair, N.J.

Perhaps the giants are working in their mysterious way. If it be true that our cities are "in a bad shape," perhaps it is the God-given opportunity to blacks to save our cities.

But, God knows, these black mayors will need help—from both whites and blacks; especially from those who, while giving up political rule, still hold the economic life of cities in the clutch of their hands.



Dr. Fleming

Social Work Bill -- Another View

Dear AFRO:

I am writing in response to the article (Nov. 3, 1973), by Madeline Murphy on the Social Work licensing bill.

Mrs. Murphy raised a number of questions concerning licensing and also made some misstatements about our association, which should be answered.

Contrary to Mrs. Murphy's description, the Maryland Chapter of NASW is not "lily-white." Our membership is composed of both black and white social workers.

Our 16-member board includes six black social workers (38 per cent).

Of the seven officers of the board, three are blacks (43 per cent).

Of the last four presidents of our chapter, two have been black (50 per cent).

Whitney Young Jr., at the time of his death, was president of our national association, among his other responsibilities. The current national president is black.

Of course, Mrs. Murphy could claim this just represents tokenism. However, we know that black participation in the association is active, continuous, and not token.

Mrs. Murphy did raise very valid questions concerning licensing of social workers which deserve answers:

First, her fear that the governor is authorized under the proposed bill to appoint the majority of the State Board of Social Work Examiners is unfounded.

He can, at most, appoint two of the five-member board from his own choices. The other three, which compromise the majority, must be appointed from a list of qualified MSW's submitted by NASW, Maryland Chapter (in consultation with ABSW).

Even the two which he can appoint through his own choosing must be MSW's.

In effect, the danger of having political (and possibly racist) hacks dominate the board is eliminated since all board members must be professionals subscribing to the Professional Code of Ethics which prohibits racism. And, further, the majority of the board is selected by the two professional associations.

Second, she speculates that the bill, which only licenses persons with an MSW and two years experience, would force paraprofessionals into meaningless tasks where they could not use their particular expertise. This is not true.

The bill specifically exempts all agency workers from MSW's to paraprofessionals, from having to be licensed in order to practice their level of social work.

Thus, no present or future agency worker will either lose his (her) job or be forced into useless tasks under this law.

The group required to be licensed as social workers in order to practice social work will be private practitioners calling themselves social workers.

Agencies on the other hand, can continue to use paraprofessionals and their unique expertise in the most productive ways possible.

Our association, like Mrs. Murphy, recognizes the invaluable contributions of paraprofessionals and is concerned that they be employed to their fullest potential.

Third, Mrs. Murphy felt that the board would stifle advocacy by social workers on the behalf of clients. She claimed that social workers engaging in advocacy might have their licenses revoked by the board for "misconduct." This is not so.

The bill intends "gross negligence, incompetence, etc.," (the reasons for revoking or refusing a license) to apply to actions by a social worker which grossly violate the rights of a client.

For example, a social worker who publicly reveals confidential information which a client has given him.

Mrs. Murphy contends that this clause could be twisted for racist purposes. However, the board will be bound by the profession's standards in judging violations; and NASW specifically sanctions advocacy on behalf of clients.

Mrs. Murphy concludes her article by stating that the primary job of NASW and ABSW should be to revise and update the civil service exams so that they more adequately evaluate the capabilities and qualifications of social workers.

While this is important, it does not answer the whole problem of adequate standards. Civil Services exams do not cover voluntary agencies and private practitioners.

The public is still vulnerable to receiving "counseling" for their personal problems from inadequately trained persons. Unless legally recognized standards, such as licensing, can be established to aid them in their choice, people in times of greatest emotional stress, face the confusion of choices and the danger of selecting unqualified assistance.

ERNEST M. KAHN, Ph.D.
(President, National Association Of Social Workers Inc., Maryland Chapter)

Reader's Nixon View

Dear AFRO:

In reference to your article (of October 30th) entitled The Inquiring Reporter, I would like you to know that I wasn't quoted correctly.

I said, "I would not vote for Nixon or anyone else, because I do not have any faith in him or Man, because we as people are not perfect.

I further stated, "A lot of people had faith in Nixon, maybe more in him then they have in themselves and now they probably feel they have been deceived."

Your reporter's rendering of my statement was not only inaccurate, but included additions which I did not state. For instance, I did not state or imply that if the President were a woman I would have more trust.

This is fiction and has already resulted in insulting accusations being made about my character.

I have even received a letter from a penitentiary inmate offering to restore my faith in men.

My only desire is to set the record straight. To end this I request of you an accurate restatement of my interview with my picture.

I assure you I do not jest when I say I will exhaust all avenues, open to me to correct what I deem an insulting and in some instances, fabricated interviews.

(Mrs.) BRENDA JOHNSON

EDITOR'S NOTE: (The reporter's notes show that this reader did indeed make the statement which appeared in the October 30 article).

It's NOT A Man's World

By Bernice S. White

The incidence of sexual assault on women and girls is increasing at an alarming rate with resulting physical and psychological damage lingering long after the commission of the crime.

According to the 1972 uniform crime reports released by the FBI on August 8, 1973, some 46,430 females were the victims of forcible rape in America last year.

The FBI submits that this volume represents an 11 per cent increase over 1971 and a shocking 70 per cent rise over 1967 figures.

Moreover, the victim risk-rate has skyrocketed 62 per cent from the 1967 level to a point where, in 1972, 43 out of every 100,000 females were reported rape victims.

In Maryland, 1,059 forcible rapes were reported to the police in 1972.

Baltimore City had 465 offenses; Prince George's County, 215 offenses; and Baltimore County, 92 offenses.

It is estimated that only about 20 per cent of the rapes are reported to police for investigation because victims are reluctant to subject themselves to the searching questions by police, and are afraid or embarrassed.

The victim also considers the fear she may have of being publicly accused by the rapist of provocation, or of having actively participated in the rape; that she somehow was at fault or acted irresponsibly.

The greatest fear is of adverse reactions on the part of those close to her especially a husband, boyfriend, or parents. Friends tend to be cruel and disbelieving.

Some women feel that the ordeal following the rape is simply not worth it when the rapist is usually not punished severely for his crime.

In 1972 alone, nearly one out of every four men arrested for forcible rape was never prosecuted.

Of the remaining 73 per cent who were prosecuted, nearly half of them were either acquitted or had their cases dismissed due to "prosecutive problems."

The fact is that only one-third of the adult men arrested for forcible rape in this nation last year were found guilty of the actual crime.

Some 19 per cent of those arrested were convicted of lesser offenses while the remaining 23 per cent were juvenile referrals.

The time has come for our society to consider the rape laws as written and the effects these laws are having on the victim and the rapist.

Women are going to have to come to grips with this increasing problem of forcible rape and make their voices heard in the legislative bodies for tighter laws dealing with this offense.

Remember—it could happen to you!!

Next week's article will deal with Senate Bill 2622—Rape Prevention and Control Act.

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: Could you please help me with a problem? My child's father is in prison at Maryland House of Correction at Jessup, Maryland. I want to know why he didn't make parole the second time. We need your help, quick. His name is — —. He escaped in '72 but they caught him. He escaped because his mother was sick and still is sick, and he is all she has now. He has a child out here but that child doesn't get help from Welfare because we were turned down and I am trying to finish school.

Please find out the answer for me. I need him and so do his child and sick mother.

MRS. H. B.

P.S.: Please keep helping people. AFRO Line is the best. Another Xmas and he will not be with his family. He has a place to stay and his father wants him to work for him. They just didn't give him a chance.

ANSWER: Your husband was granted parole on July 27, 1971, approximately two years after his first major incarceration (7-31-69). While on parole, however, he fled from supervision and committed a new offense which in turn netted him 18 months.

While serving his new sentence, your husband escaped (8-16-72). The Parole Department ruled (Oct. 23, 1973), that your husband was not a good parole risk at this time. For more detailed information, you may contact the Department of Probation and Parole Services. That number is: (301) 667-0700.

QUESTION: I am an inmate at Baltimore City Jail. I think it is right for the taxpayers and citizens of this city to know what is going on in this jail, especially people my age or younger.

We, the inmates do not have a chance. I was just a juvenile when I came in this institution 10 months ago. I have been on lockup for the past 5 months.

The administration has taken our privileges (phone calls once a week and recreation away due to disorderly conduct of individuals. We didn't start an uprising yet, and of course you know we are innocent until proven guilty. They also took our televisions.

"When an inmate spoke up about our rights to a white lieutenant he called a lot of black, low-ranking officers, and they sprayed mace in his face and threw him in his cell.

"They are not breaking us. They're just making monsters out of us and we will be that way when we get on the streets again.

X Y.

ANSWER: Warden Gordon C. Kamka told AFRO Line inmates were transferred to the lock-up section after an engage last month. The warden asserts that not only did inmates in the escapee's section know that the escape was in progress, but some of them issued threats to an inmate who attempted to get a message to one of the guards.

The televisions were taken, he said, because 'B' section, where you