# OPINION

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 JANUARY 12, 1974

## Take Him Or Leave Him

The speculation may have ended by the time you read this, but it is hard to understand why so much concern was spent this week on when, or whether, general manager Joe Thomas would re-sign Howard Schnellenberger as head coach of the Baltimore Colts.

At the AFRO, it has been one of those "couldn't -care-less" situations. We can take Schnellenberger or leave him; Thomas, too.

Much has been said in defense of Howard in the daily media. Some argue that he deserves a chance to produce a better record than 4-10. Others contend that he was given a group of athletes that another man (Thomas) picked, and was expected to perform wonders.

Both positions are sound, but it seems that any second chance granted Schnellenberger should also be based on the feeling that he deserves an opportunity to show that he is free of racist inclinations.

Inasmuch as Howard was reportedly forced by front office directive to play Lydell Mitchell; that it took him seven games to concede that Roy Hilton is one of his finest defensive players and was entitled to a better fate than a sideline snub, and 13 games to discover that Bill Olds is a capable fullback, one must question either his ability as a coach or his attitude on color.

The constant prattle about Schnellenberger's credentials also leaves us cold here. Maybe he did come to Baltimore after working with great coaches like Bear Bryant, George Allen and Don Shula. But so what?

To imply that this makes him something special is like saying the Old Gray Mare must be fast because she once ran in a race with Secretariat.

## Challenge For Schaefer

As top officials continue to quit the administration of Mayor Donald Schaefer, it's possible that some of the new vacancies are blessings for the city and will provide the mayor an opportunity to make improvements.

One such area is that of the Civil Service Commission. Its director since 1953, Thomas Murphy, and his wife, Virginia, who has been assistant director, have resigned effective Jan. 18.

No area of city government will be more important as Baltimore faces the challenge of renewing itself than that of jobs.

Specifically, the Civil Service Commission in Baltimore must be headed by capable, sensitive officials who not only will not be hampered in their jobs by racial and metropolitanism hangups, but who will actively promote the recruitment and promotion of minorities and city residents in city jobs.

It is the expressed policy of the mayor's administration that there be no racial discrimination.

Both the mayor, the City Council, the courts and other officials, have expressed approval of preference in hiring and promoting on behalf of Baltimore City residents, blacks and whites.

When Mayor Schaefer fills these two posts these important matters should be uppermost among his considerations.

The loss of City Solicitor George L. Russell Jr. pretty much wipes blacks out of posts of real power within the Schaefer regime. For that reason, the AFRO calls on Mayor Schaefer to make sure either the new CRC director or top assistant is black, preferably the top post. It also urges Schaefer to ensure that both the newcomers will be keenly pro-Baltimoreans who will be willing and anxious to give more than lip service to the proposition of preference to city residents.

We've heard considerable from the mayor about this strong desire to give Baltimore a new image and make it a progressive City with a solid future. We've even heard some blacks declare that the mayor could be a tough man to defeat in the next election.

For our part, the mayor's handling of these key vacancies will be important elements in any assessment of his plans for Baltimore City.

## How Real The Crisis?

An energy crisis? Undoubtedly. The victims? Unfortunately, we are. But who is the real culprit? Who should share the blame for the present situation?

If we are to believe the President, we are the culprits. The fingers of accusation of both the environmental protectionists, the White House, and the oil industry all point towards us, the people.

Consequently, while the President prides himself on conserving energy by reducing lighting on Federal properties and riding in a First-Class commercial airplane instead of his private jet, it is the common people who really are made to suffer inconvenience.

And when the case switches even closer, it is blacks and the poor who are made to suffer outright deprivation in even greater measures.

Without federal subsidies, public transportation prices will undoubtedly go up.

And the present "feelers" in the form of early press releases about possible gasoline rationing are undoubtedly only sensitizers for an already-decided fact - to - come.

There have even been deaths reportedly occurring because inner city residents have been victims of exploding gas containers.

All of this is totally unnecessary if reports now coming to surface are to be believed.

A major magazine article this month points out that American consumers use up only 30 per cent of the energy.

Industry and business and related enterprises consume the other 70 per cent.

Jesse Jackson and Ralph Nader last week charged further that the shortage publicity was only a part of a carefully-planned scare to increase oil industry profits.

Others have said that even if a real crisis is imminent, the Arab embargoes have only aggravated the situation, certainly not caused or intensely heightened it.

In the face of this, we cannot accept such drastic measures as gasoline rationing as answers or even necessary.

Past experiences remind us that this is not only distasteful to the masses, but that it is inevitably conditioned for abuse anyway.

## Note For Teachers

Since most of us are prone to forget, here is a friendly reminder for teachers and other educational workers, who comprise one of the largest segments of employees of Baltimore City.

Snow last month and this past Wednesday and the extra two days added to the Christmas holidays because of the fuel shortage, mean school personnel already have had five extra days off.

We would suggest that they run a pencil through these days so that they will remember when summer comes.

While the rest of us were up bright and early in the snow and rain, and at daylight saving hours, going to work in the dark and arriving home in the dark, they were not astir.

We hope that when the end of the school term comes and the balmy weather is with us, they will remember their winter time goodies and not object to spending five extra days in the classroom educating the youngsters who missed school because of snow and the fuel shortage.

## AFRO Credo

Equal justice, not only in theory, but in fact before courts.

Adequate black representation on all public boards and commissions of Maryland cities, counties and the state itself, including colleges and universities.

Extensive and meaningful black-political power.

Equal job opportunities in fact as well as theory.

Equal housing opportunities in fact as well as theory.

Black judges on all benches of the city, county and state court systems.

A black owned and operated taxicab company.

A black owned and operated bank.

A black majority on Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners.

# Martin Luther King—1929-1968

In a few short years, the Rev. Martin Luther King rose from an unknown Baptist minister to become one of the greatest of all human beings. He was born Jan. 15, 1929.

Until he was ambushed in 1968, at the age of 39, he devoted each moment to obtaining first class citizenship for his people.

Few young people today realize that Dr. King's demonstrations, begun in Alabama, eventually led to the non-violent protest becoming a popular tool for freedom for all nationalities.

Prior to Dr. King's initiating the peaceful method, "love thine enemy," had never been the theme of any protest in the United States.

Gradually, King-type pickets emerged and dared later to surround the White House. In other instances, citizens openly declared their feelings at other government sites and the method echoed around the world.

Dr. King's almost magic method thus can be said to have brought freedom to all minorities and to white citizens as well.

As tragic as his assassination was, the unprecedented incident raised Dr. King to immortality. His birthday and the day of his death, April 4, 1968, are days never to be forgotten.

Next week on the 45th anniversary of his birth, the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper Co.'s business offices in Baltimore and affiliated cities will join schools and others in closing down in the memory of the great statesman.

Reprinted herewith are excerpts from Dr. King's famed March on Washington speech (Aug. 28, 1963), which have great depth and meaning today as they did when they were uttered on that historic day before millions in the nation's capital:

NO TIME: — We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice.

SOLID ROCK: — Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood.

NO REST: — There will be neither rest nor tranquility in America until the Negro is granted his citizenship rights. The whirlwinds of revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our nation until the bright day of justice emerges.

NO HATRED: — In the process of gaining our rightful place we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred.

DIGNITY:—We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline.

VIOLENCE: — We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence.

STOCKETT

This portrait by AFRO artist Thomas Stockett captures the entrancing personality of the young minister Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who became one of the greatest men the world has ever known.

SOUL FORCE: — Again and again we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force. The marvelous new militancy which has engulfed the Negro community must not lead us to a distrust of all white people, for many of our white brothers, as evidenced by their presence here today, have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny and their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom.

PLEDGE: — And as we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall march ahead. We cannot turn back. There are those who are asking the devotees of civil rights, "When will you be satisfied?"

GHETTO: — We cannot be satisfied as long as the Negro's basic mobility is from a smaller ghetto to a larger one.

SUFFERING: — You have been the veterans of creative suffering. Continue to work with the faith that unearned suffering is redemptive.

DESPAIR: — Go back to Mississippi, go back to Alabama, go back to South Carolina, go back to Georgia, go back to Louisiana, go back to the slums and ghettos of our northern cities, knowing that somehow this situation can and will be changed. Let us not wallow in the valley of despair.

I HAVE A DREAM: — I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

OUR HOPE: — I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plains, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

FAITH: — With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we shall be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we shall be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

FREE AT LAST: — When we let freedom ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual "Free at last! Free at last! thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"

## A little About a LOT—Who Takes Control?

By Madeline W. Murphy

When the white suburban noose strangles the black city neck, with flight of industry, tax bases and assessments, who takes control?

When the tantalizing suggestion is made that in '75 we can have a black mayor to reverse this trend, who takes control?

When a search committee is needed to get a responsive, liberal dean for the Univ. of Md. Law School, who takes control?

When black leadership waffles, vascillates, so that this important decision, among others, is being made by the "man," who takes control?

When a 70 per cent black city school population for the first time is being effectively educated by a black superintendent, a victim of paranoid attacks and criticisms, who takes control?

And then, when we hear the cry that we must set priorities, game plans, strategies, develop unity in the black community, who takes control?

Are we such sycophants that none of us knows how to organize, to unify, to manipulate, so that we take control? That whenever choices are made concerning the welfare of the black community, we don't care if we're consulted or respected?

At the same time in recent philosophical discussions, ruminations and wishful thinking, there surfaces an uneasiness, an unexplained fear of a person or personality who might grasp the leadership role.

Yet this kind of leadership is only dangerous when the leader holds onto it jealously, acts independently of the group, without consulting it; makes no positive provisions, defines no timetables by which he or she grooms prospective new leadership.

It is precisely now, however, that charismatic leadership is desperately needed!

Within the past few years, because our ranks have been co-opted, bought off and dissipated, we lack a unity of purpose. We are bounded by a tentativeness, an apathy, because we have not adequately defined what "unity in the black community" really means.

Nathan Hare in the November issue of Black Scholar suggests that ". . . we can have unity on fundamental principles, unity of struggle even when there is no unity of opinion.

"For it is this very reluctance to unify with criticism of one another — a crucial ingredient of any revolutionary struggle — that helps to prevent significant unity.

"Where any criticism is taken as a total rejection of the individual or group criticized, there is set up the impetus for internal separatism and discord.

"The white oppressors disagree with one another, but they unify around the principle of racism. At the same time they suggest that we should all think alike. We can disagree while unifying around the principle of liberation."

Effective, realistic leadership, though ideally based upon mutual trust, cannot avoid trading — "You scratch my back, I'll scratch yours" — (and not sell us down the river, either!); nor can it expect Boy Scout virtues from all its members.

Somewhere along the line, however, we must develop the sophistication of our forebears in learning survival techniques and strategies of unity despite our differences, so that we demand the respect that our numbers indicate we should have.

With a black population in Baltimore of 51 per cent (belatedly admitted by the powers that be) what muscle will the black community flex to make its choices, decisions, wishes known?

How long does the Great White Father make our decisions for us? How long do we delay developing our own game plan? When do we take control? Most importantly, who will take on the fearsome role of leadership?

These questions must be answered by the black elected leadership of this city and state, first and foremost. Otherwise, their election and re-election will not significantly change anything.

For the power of their political position given them the mandate to solve problems, develop strategies, to make decisions, to take control in concert with the black community, and if they don't hang together, ultimately we all hang separately.

Then we shall lose even the promise of power, of control, that their elections in greater numbers have given us.

## 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.

QUESTION — On July 1, 1972, I was arrested in a raid, at which time some money was confiscated from me. Since that time, I have been found "not guilty."

My attorney has my property slip, and I haven't been able to get my money back. Why is that?

B.Y.

ANSWER — According to an official in the Police Community Relations Department, it is possible that the Legal Department has made a claim against the money.

Depending on the circumstances of the acquittal, i.e., improper procedure, lack of concrete evidence or witnesses, the judge may have ruled that the money was legally confiscated.

More than likely, however, you haven't gone to the correct place to claim your money.

The officer suggests that you first contact the headquarters of the district in which you were arrested and ask for the arresting officer.

After doing this, it is suggested that you go to the new police headquarters building (with your property slip) and proceed to the property room.

QUESTION: In a recent If You Ask Me column, Mrs. Moss referred to the Greater Baltimore Medical Center as a combination of old Baltimore Eye, Ear and Throat and Presbyterian Hospital for Women.

Is this correct? —

N.C.

ANSWER: Greater Baltimore Medical Center is the result of the merger of two specialized hospitals in downtown Baltimore, Hospital for Women of Maryland and the Presbyterian Eye Ear and Throat Charity Hospital.

Both of the old hospitals were founded in the 1880's. The Greater Baltimore General Hospital opened its doors in Sept., 1965.

QUESTION: There is a club for young people where a cup of coke costs 50 cents. The sodas are too sweet and when I asked a waiter to put some water in the syrupy soda, he said it would cost extra. What can we do? —

E. R.

Answer: Management advises AFRO Line that complaint to manager or his representative who is always on duty, would have rectified the matter.

QUESTION: — My daughter is paying her own college tuition this year. Will this have any effect on whether or not I can claim her as a dependent? —

D.V.

ANSWER: Yes. Payments for educational expenses are counted in determining total support.

Internal Revenue says if you and your daughter furnish her total support for the year and your daughter spent more on her support items, such as food, shelter, clothing, education, etc., than you spent for her support, you will not be able to claim her as a dependent.

WASHINGTON

## Always Under The Gun

By Parren J. Mitchell
(D-7th District-Maryland)
U.S. House of Representatives
414 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Town of Glenarden, Md. is a black community of approximately 5,000 people, with a black mayor, Decator W. Trotter.

It is a well-run town, governed by a seven-member council and served by five department heads.

It is located in upper Prince George's County and has been most innovative in development of new town proposals.

In January 1973, Gov. Marvin Mandel submitted to the Maryland General Assembly, a plan that would create a new district for the predominantly inter-Beltway blacks.

As a result of his proposal, several communities filed suits with the Circuit Court of Appeals to have their boundary lines changed to provide them with more concentration of power.

After several requests the court, using its own discretion, appointed a master to oversee the complete dismantling of the Mandel plan, with the authority to recommend to the court a new proposal.

Mayor Trotter told me that upon inspection of the new proposal Glenarden's 5,000 citizens would be coupled with Legislative District 23 which is made up of 84,000 white voters.

Understandably, Mayor Trotter and the City Fathers have petioned the Court for relief in this situation.

Using the Court's definition of a legislative district as one with comparable social, economic, and political interests, the Glenarden officials have developed a cogent and persuasive argument in their action.

Those officials aver that economically, politically, and socially, the residents and voters of the town are more attuned to the thinking of voters in Legislative District 25.

The concerns of voters in that District and those of Glenarden residents include urban renewal, public housing and recreation.

Glenarden is a leader in this legislative area, and its position is that more can be accomplished in these areas of concern if the municipality is grouped with Legislative District 25.

It is also their position that inclusion of the town in District 23 would dissipate their influence and group them with voters who do not share the concern outlined above.

They further argue that under their alternative plan the two election districts would have a more equalized population total (thus being in accord with Section 4 of Article III of the Maryland Constitution. Glenarden citizens fear that plans for future growth, urban renewal programs, political independence and political clout would be almost destroyed if it is coupled with Legislative District 23.

I bring this matter to your attention because, while we are basking in the glory of the elections of Mayors Thomas Bradley, Maynard Jackson and Coleman Young, we must bear in mind that not all Americans share our feelings of pride when blacks are elected to high positions.

We must also bear in mind that the forces designed to reduce black political power are always at work, openly and hiddenly.

We must remember we are always under the gun.

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)



## 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.

## Funerals And Gas

Dear AFRO:

While I was coming from the store today, I stopped for a funeral procession. There were no less than 25 cars, including one hearse and two limousines.

Some of these cars had only one passenger, and in some only the driver.

These people will travel anywhere from 10-15 miles to the cemetery and back.

Now, if there is a gas shortage, why don't some of these people leave their cars and commute with willing drivers, and help foot the tab on the driver's next tank full, or almost a tank full of gas, and at the same time saving theirs.

I know there are drivers who have other destinations, such as going to work, etc., but it will be a way of saving gas, money and traffic tie-ups.

Better still, when the funeral directors suspect large funerals, they could, while the crisis is here, hire buses, if it is not too much expense for him and the family.

But, then again, is there a gas fuel shortage?

WILLIAM (BILL) RUSSELL SMITH

## Mrs. Wurtzburger

Dear AFRO:

It is with great sorrow that the Provident Hospital family mourns the passing of Mrs. Alan J. Wurtzburger. Her selfless devotion and dedication to this institution made her beloved by all who had the pleasure to know her.

As secretary to our Board of Trustees, she helped to make the dream of the new Provident Hospital become a reality. To those who worked with her, Mrs. Wurtzburger was an inspiration; confident, hopeful and diligent in performing the duties she assumed.

She will be missed, not only by those of us at Provident, but by the entire Baltimore community to which she gave so much. As her family and loved ones, you can be consoled to some degree during this difficult time by the knowledge that many lives were touched, helped and inspired by this remarkable woman.

GEORGE L. RUSSELL, JR.
(Receiver,
Provident Hospital, Inc.)

Ed's Note: Mrs. Wurtzburger was killed in an auto accident while on vacation in Jamaica last month).

## Come Speak Out

Dear AFRO:

The "energy crisis" is hitting us now with the perennial B G and E rate hike. On Sept. 10, the Baltimore Gas and Electric Co. filed for a 10 per cent increase in their electric and steam rates.

Their story is that they "need" a $51 million increase, but are "only" asking the PSC for $32.4 million. What nerve! They got a $16 million increase just one year ago!

B G and E is no starving babe. Ranking 27th out of all the utility companies in the country, the profits for 1972 were $74.8 million (after taxes).

We the public are fed up with the skyrocketing cost of living. The big corporations, the oil companies and the "public" utilities' profits keep going up, and up and up. And it is we, the wage earners bringing home barely enough to make ends meet, or the elderly living on fixed incomes, who end up bearing the burden. We've had it up to here!

There is only one way that we can put the brakes on these run-away monopolies, and that is to get up and make our voices heard.

The one opportunity we have is the Public Hearings that the Public Service Commission set up for 6 days in early January.

The two Baltimore City hearings will be: Saturday, Jan. 12, at 10 a.m., at the Western District Police Station (Roll Call Room), 1034 N. Mount St. and Thursday, Jan. 17, at 7 p.m., at the Southeastern District Police Station, 5700 Eastern Ave. Come and speak out!!

JOHN FOURNELE

## Banks Article

Dear AFRO:

I would like to say a grand Amen for the excellent article in Monday's edition of the AFRO by Dr. Samuel Banks. Dr. Banks is one of the great strengths of our school system.

My husband and I invariably wait to hear from him when issues of major importance to our children's education arise. We think he is a jewel.

It is our hope that we will see more straight talking and informative articles by Dr. Banks in your paper. We need more black educators like him.

(MR. and MRS.)
ISAAC C. JOHNSON

## A Mello Backer

Dear AFRO:

Well, I hope Commissioner Donald Pomerleau is a very happy man now. They finally got Capt. Dennis P. Mello arrested.

I have never seen a more obvious prejudiced act against a man, whose only fault was that he was black and broke a lot of barriers in the department.

Of course Commissioner Pomerleau will say he didn't do it. It was the federal government. Don't you believe it.

Come on black community. Don't let this happen to this wonderful man who served 29 years of faithful service to you. If you let him down, what will be next?

Bring this to the attention of the governor, or is he too wrapped up in his own love life to know what is going on?

O. K. Mr. Pomerleau, what can you do for an encore, or are you satisfied?

J. M. CHILCOTT

## Mrs. Santa

Dear AFRO:

This is just a note to try and express my sincere gratitude to you and your staff for the wonderful contributions we received from you to enable us to have a very good and happy Christmas holiday.

Was really unable to give the children much of anything for Christmas after paying rent and other bills, and then on top of all that my purse was taken while I was out shopping to get what little bit I could, and I lost everything, and consequently had given up hope.

But, thanks to your Mrs. Santa and her helpers, and of course thanks to God, my children and I were able to have an enjoyable holiday, after all.

MRS. X

## School Vacation Days

Dear AFRO:

It was claimed in an article on January 1, 1974, in the AFRO-AMERICAN, that the Baltimore City public schools were "unilaterally ordering psychologists, social workers and educational associates to report to work during the Christmas vacation." This is inaccurate.

On Friday, December 21, 1973, I met with a representative from PSTA, the teachers bargaining agent, to clear up any questions in regards to the work schedule for associates during the winter vacation period.

At this meeting the representative was advised of the arrangements that were made, such that all personnel of the educational or staff associate classification in the school system who were asked to report to work during this winter vacation period, because of the nature of their job responsibilities would receive compensatory time for those operational days worked.

Those operational days included December 27 and 28, January 2, 3 and 4, during which time the Central and Regional offices would remain open.

These arrangements seemed to have been totally acceptable to the PSTA representative as a proper method of insuring the rights of the associate level personnel who needed to work during this period. As a result of this meeting, the PSTA representative with whom I met did not denounce the actions of the school system as your article indicates.

I hope that this letter will serve to set the record straight and will explain and clarify the situation that you reported.

HOWARD E. WHITE JR.
(Assistant Superintendent,
Personnel)

(Editor's Note: The writer incorrectly attributes the statement to the AFRO. The AFRO's January 1 article was a release from the Public School Teachers' Association which said it "deplored the action taken by the school superintendent in unilaterally ordering psychologists, social workers and educational persons to report for work during the Christmas vacation.")

## Honor Roll

Dear AFRO:

I wish to extend to the AFRO-AMERICAN my heartfelt thanks for selecting me to receive the AFRO-AMERICAN Award presented in December.

I am deeply honored and grateful to be a member of the 1972 Honor Roll. I will always cherish this award and the meaning behind it.

You have definitely inspired me to work harder and to seek greater heights.

On behalf of my family, friends and relatives, I extend to you my sincere thanks. The AFRO is doing a tremendous job in the black community! God bless you.

ALBERT WILLIAMS JR.

## Baltimore City Employee Made Welfare Chief In Richmond

The following interview appeared in the Richmond AFRO-AMERICAN Jan. 5, 1974.

The 40-year-old black chief of welfare for the City of Richmond says he aims to place the goal of sensitizing whites to the needs and lifestyle of blacks high on his list of priorities when he takes office later this month.

Edmond D. Jones, who is resigning as assistant director for family and child services for the City of Baltimore to take over the Richmond welfare office on Jan. 21, said this sensitizing is necessary to shatter myths about blacks on welfare.

When black lifestyles are misinterpreted, strengths can be viewed falsely as weaknesses, said Jones in an AFRO interview, telling his plans in his new job which will pay $28,600 a year.

With his employment in Richmond, there will still be only four blacks among the 16 department level directors in the city's governmental structure. And even though the city population is nearly half black, city employees are about 33 per cent black, most of whom are in the lower paying positions.

But while most black spokesmen look critically on the employment situation in Richmond City government, they viewed the Jones appointment as an effort by City Manager William Leidinger to prove that he's sincere in his promise to hire qualified blacks for top level posts.

Leidinger appointed Jones after receiving the recommendations of a citizen-laden five member committee consisting of three blacks, including Raymond H. Boone, editor of the Richmond AFRO-AMERICAN; Substitute Judge Leonard Lambert and Jerry C. Crews, head of a planned parenthood project.

The other members of the committee were: Elaine Rothenberg, a dean of the graduate school of social work at Virginia Commonwealth University and Assistant City Manager Leonard Wharton.

Jones, a heavy set articulate divorcee, discussed the need to sensitize whites to black lifestyles in response to a question on improving the service received by blacks who comprise 69.9 per cent of Richmond's welfare rolls.

He cited a hypothetical case of child neglect as an example of the type of misinterpretation he refers to.

"A small youngster might be removed from his home because some social worker or teacher might see him alone at three o'clock in the afternoon out in the street in an urban setting."

"That alone is not grounds for the removal of the child because it could be that someone is responsible for the child," Jones said, adding:

"It could be the man selling newspapers on the corner. If something happens to the child a kind of community alarm goes out . . . The community plays the parental role while the parents are out hustling to get by.

"And if something happens, the child knows who to go to even though there is no formal arrangement. We (as blacks) have traditionally taken on these roles."

Jones is secretary of an organization, Black Administrators in Child Welfare, whose primary purpose is to change that type of misunderstanding of black lifestyles.

A concern for the welfare of the child is also high on his list of priorities. Speaking on a personal level, Jones said that the separation of the child from his family should be a "last resort."

On specific problems in Richmond, Jones said he couldn't elaborate because at this point he does not know enough about the city and its welfare system.

He did, however, say that he intends to investigate "what improvements can be made in the financial assistance system" in that welfare agencies are under fire for heavy percentages of error. "I want to make it as realistic as possible," Jones said.

Improving the image of the welfare system, Jones also mentioned as important. He said that Welfare often comes under criticism for failures in other systems.

He explained that fluctuations in the economic system will affect welfare rolls. And Jones predicted that with the energy crisis causing many businesses to lay off employees, he anticipates welfare rolls to rise.

Richmond, Jones said, appeals to him because it appears to be a "manageable place and size."

Comparing the city to Baltimore, he said that the Richmond population of approximately 250,000 persons is about the same size as the list of persons receiving assistance from Baltimore's social service department.

Richmond, Jones said, is "big enough and also small enough to be managed by present techniques."

A native of Chicago, Jones holds an associate of arts degree from Chicago City Junior College, a bachelor's degree from Loyola University and a master's degree in social work from Columbia University.

Jones worked for five years as a assistant bureau chief of social services i Wilmington, Del., before going t Baltimore. In that position, he was th coordinator of work and training and chie of special services.

Prior to becoming the assistant directo of Baltimore's family and child servic department, Jones was the bureau chi of public assistance services.

He is a member of the Nation Association of Black Social Workers and consultant with the Black Chil Development Institute in Washington D.C.

In addition, he belongs to the America Public Welfare Association and the Chil Welfare League of America.

EDMOND D. JONES—Baltimore's loss is Richmond's gain.

## NOW and THEN
## George Russell, Right Man In Right Place

By G. James Fleming

By the time this column appears in print, or sometime later, George L. Russell Jr., presently City Solicitor of Baltimore, veteran lawyer, former Supreme Bench judge, "ambassador of goodwill," and gentleman, should have been appointed to Maryland's highest court — the Court of Appeals.

Those "in the know" declare that there can be no "slip," that this appointment has been "in the bag" for a long time.

Friends and foes of the nominee agree that elevating Russell to the state's highest appeals tribunal will certainly be "putting the right man in the right place."

Everything that made George Russell a loser in competitive electoral politics — in the raw fisticuffs of dog-eat-dog politics — fits him eminently for the highest bench.

He is a scholar-lawyer. He is careful of language. He believes in doing his "homework" before making decisions.

He works best in the cloisters where books and ideas are of first priority. He has overwhelming respect for precedent, right, truth and law — at least as great lawyers value them.

Russell loves people and is interested in them. But his outward and visible mien — immaculate grooming, careful speech and Old World grace — does not sell him easily as a "hail fellow well met."

Hugging strange women of all sizes and kissing unknown babies do not come easily for him.

He is perhaps too honest, deep down.

Many people misunderstand him because of the outward and visible Russell.

It takes time to know the real, warm, concerned human being. Nevertheless, he is esteemed by his peers regardless of their race, religion or national background.

As a justice of the Court of Appeals (the "supreme court" of most other states), Russell will be facing complicated briefs, respected precedents and seasoned counselors-at-law. Supreme courts are seldom bounded by screaming mothers, picketing students or threatening hardhats.

On the radical-reactionary axis, Russell is neither a radical nor a reactionary. As a part of the middle class, a family man and an affiliate of the power structure of the city, he is bound to be "conservative," in many areas, because he has things to conserve; but he is a liberal in such fundamentals as civil rights, equal opportunity for all Americans and more sharing by all in the political and economic bounty of the nation.

Of him it may also be said that he has, or is of, "judicial temperament;" but this quality does not make him any less a "brother."

If and as Governor Mandel names the City Solicitor, the Chief Executive will be playing his part in a neat political arrangement.

When Russell ran for mayor in 1971, against William Donald Schaefer, he held the office of City Solicitor under Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro III. When he was defeated by Schaefer, the question was, "What will happen to Russell, now?"

There were many mis-moves but, ultimately, Mayor Schaefer kept Russell as a holdover City Solicitor and member of his cabinet — a position Russell still holds until June 30.

Russell could perhaps have won appointment to the lower-level Supreme Bench or the Court of Special Appeals, but he waited, expecting that time would be on his side. Finally, so he wagered, it would be to the self-interest of the political powers-that-be to seat him on the state's highest bench.

That time seems to have come, politically, for Governor Mandel, a candidate for reelection this year. Not only is Russell qualified; not only does he have solid backing in legal circles, but, most important to a governor in 1974, he is black. Governor Mandel is no babe-in-the-woods as a politician.

Mayor Schaefer also deserves credit for keeping his principal opponent in office, even after he had waged an ill-advised race for Congress in 1972. (Or, was it really ill-advised, since it kept him on the firing lines?).

The United States being what it is, interracially speaking, the appointment of Mr. Russell must be considered "progress" and "achievement" for blacks, especially those of Maryland.

But, it is too late in history for one judg (even of a state's highest court) to b considered the answer to all politic prayers — for all time.

No more can one police captain, e head of a state department, one judge, repeat, or one or two of anybody anything, be the Alpha and Omega black people's hopes, dreams and o jectives.

Unless this column is all wrong, here our congratulations to George S. Russ and those who made his appointme possible.

Dr. Fleming

## IF YOU Ask ME

By Bellye Moss

Some - of - my - friends - are - white people, - but - with - friends - like them - who - needs - enemies department: — Before entering hospital for eye surgery last month, this writer wrote the Baltimore Safety Council Executive Vice President as follows:

"Because I will be hospitalized at the next meeting of the Safety Council Board of Directors on Dec. 11, I am asking that the AFRO's purchasing director, Mr. George Lottier, sit in for me."

This, I thought was a routine request which would be honored with disdain.

But, lo and behold, when I returned to the office for the first time this week, I discover the AFRO seat on the board was not occupied and this explanation from the executive director:

"This has been the problem I have faced for the past 2½ years, really to keep the board people from sending substitutes . . ." and this, "the board took some action 2½ years ago saying substitutes would not be seated . . ."

And, further, "Organizations like the Police Department, Motor Vehicles and Education, are not real members, they pay no dues, so we let them send substitutes . . ."

And, "they are simply invited representatives and on that basis, we have let them send substitutes, because they in effect really, while they are elected to the board . . . they have votes like the rest, but it's a little bit different situation . . ."

And, get this . . . "Now I know B and O violated this last month . . . . ." etc.

Minutes of the Dec. 11 meeting show these substitutes present for following board members: T. A. Bradigan and Charles Spencer, Frank R. Rice Jr., Lt. Col. M. M. Guerrasio for Police Commissioner Donald Pomerleau; Dave Hugel for Ejner J. Johnson and Francis Noel for Dr. Edward Anderson.

At the Nov. 13 meeting, where this writer was present, these substitutes, Francis Noel for Dr. Anderson; Mr. Hugel for Johnson; Roger Burns for Gordon E. Mauch; Daniel Dixon for Dr. Roland N. Patterson; Arnold Rembold for James S. Penhallegon and Lt. Col. Guerrasio for Comm. Pomerleau.

Previous minutes will reflect these or other substitutes for board members.

So, I have difficulty with understanding Executive Secretary Earl Smith's statement to my office, "we treat all member companies exactly the same. We understand there will be times when they cannot attend the meeting, but we do not ask them to send a substitute for that meeting . . ."

"I am sorry there is some confusion. I will have to go back to Frank Rice again and tell him since he violated it with the Chessey System, that I am reminding him again that he is not to send substitutes . . ."

Do hum . . . As I said, some of my friends are . . . but they make it difficult for me to deal with them in good temper, when they apparently use two sets of rules for the game.

People being kind to others: Dr. Roland N. Williams, the young Hopkins doctor, took time from his busy holiday, to counsel with over 100 members of Pen-Mar Alcoholics Anonymous group at the Md. Penitentiary on Saturday.

Some 100 members of the group heard him tell how alcoholism is treatable.

Cuff note: Dr. Williams, a member of the Baltimore Area Council on Alcoholism, conducts the WWIN program, "Facts About Health the Public Should Know." He and WWIN's Mrs. Mary Clayburn were honored with appreciation certificates by their hosts.

Just beautiful indeed is the new split level on Baservill Drive in Mitchellville, Md., which Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Myers (Marian), recently occupied.

He is the Bowie State College president who designed the residence himself.

Neighbors and friends gathered there for open house on Saturday afternoon. A number of their former Baltimore City neighbors were about.

New faces in new job department: Friendly Mrs. Helen Evans is the new assistant director of medical records at Provident Hospital. She moved up from supervisor at another area hospital after going back to Community College and preparing for her new field. Good girl!

Twelfth Night, traditionally, the twelfth day after Christmas, marks the end of the holiday season.

This was the theme of the lovely reception St. James Episcopal Church rector, Father Donald O. Wilson and Mrs. Wilson (Theda), held at their Strathmore Rd. parsonage on Sunday evening.

Church members, friends and neighbors joined them and their family for a delightful evening of reminiscing. Mrs. Wilson was lovely in black halter top and long, floral print skirt.

More people moving about: Baltimore-born Mrs. Harrison Smalley (Mary Daley) was down from New York on Saturday to entertain her club of childhood pals, the AGNNs. She took them to Dinner at the Playboy.

A Colt winner: Miss Maritte Coleman, who collected $8 in the AFRO's twice weekly lucky photo contest last Friday forgot to mention that she is in the spotlight in another area. Many know her as the cheerleader who looks like you and me when the Baltimore Colts are playing. She credits AFRO's Sam Lacy with getting her interested.

Church-goers: — Spied at Sunday morning services at Wayland Baptist Church, Superintendent of Schools Roland N. Patterson, wife, Marion and their daughter, Doris. The Rev. Darneal F. Johnson Jr. is minister here.

People remembering: Overheard

Mrs. Moss

longtime friends reminiscing about D George E. Lee Sr., 81, the longtin Baltimore City pharmacist who w buried here on Jan. 3.

They recalled he was unassumin devoted, dedicated and served in mar areas without thought of personal rewar

A group of professional friends honor him at last June's Chi Delta Mu Founder Day banquet with the distinguish service citation.

They recalled: "He was a chart member. We decided to offer chart members life membership, but I wouldn't have it. He wanted to continue pay his way."

Many Baltimoreans should rememb friendly Dr. Lee who worked many lo hours at Hilton Court, Exeter and Broo field pharmacies, and he did this servi while employed for 25 years with t Department of Employment Security.

Cuff note: Dr. Lee was a son of the la Dr. John R. E. Lee, founder and for years president of Fla. A and M Colleg

A brother, John R. E. Lee Jr., su ceeded his dad and served until his dea in 1972.

Two other brothers, Dr. Maurice Le retired Morgan State College professo now of West Palm Beach, Fla. and D. Ralph Lee, Normal, Ala. and a siste Mrs. Berdie Lee Jones of Tallahasse Fla., survive.

His wife, the former Maude Gates, die three years ago