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 MAY 25, 1975

Stop Pussyfooting

The time has come to stop pussyfooting with the "we can't bus" element and move the educational fate of Baltimore's children into the federal courts where there still is respect for the law of the land.

When the new deadline established by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), comes and passes next week, there will not be an acceptable school desegregation plan for Baltimore City's segregated school system.

Just as bad, there is a tragic lack of support for an acceptable plan from Baltimore's educational, business and church communities. The silence is devastating.

Mayor Schaefer is another one of those public officials who puts his personal emotions and political instincts regarding busing ahead of his concern for meeting the requirements of the law.

As Dr. Emerson R. Julian, Fourth District city councilman, often says, Schaefer is a man bent on building up an army of puppets and rubber stamps. His spurious unannounced dismissal of Mrs. Elizabeth Murphy Moss from the school board was another example of his deviousness.

Why is it that there is no more leadership from the business community? Or from the educational community, including the school board president and superintendent? Or from the churches of Baltimore, including the black leadership?

Have Baltimoreans been lulled into a false sense of security and progress?

The Baltimore NAACP is on record as standing by to see if the HEW-requested plan for further desegregation meets the guidelines before "taking immediate appropriate" action.

That action, seeking approval of a court okayed plan of desegregation, is the only way forward for Baltimore.

The AFRO does not think the NAACP should dillydally around waiting for the city schools' plan that may not materialize in time to make necessary arrangements for September enforcement.

In other localities where public officials and community leaders have refused to obey the law, the NAACP has managed to provide input into a desegregation plan and get it approved by the courts. There should be such an acceptable plan available here which could be pressed into the void.

The foot-dragging "can't bus elementary school children" hypocrites can't be allowed to scuttle lawful desegregation that is going to benefit the disadvantaged children of Baltimore.

There must and will be a plan before the courts in time to get action by September.

The AFRO makes that pledge to the young people who will benefit by a full sharing of all the resources available in settings where no classroom will be superior because of the color of the students or where they study.

Bad News And Good . . .

For baseball fans, it is that time again in our town.

That time of year when the inept play of the Orioles has transformed Baltimore into a city of cliff-hangers, and started the acid juices flowing in the duodenals of baseball fans.

But, from it all comes some bad news and some good.

The bad news is that old reliable Brooks Robinson, recognized throughout baseball as "Mister Third Base," has been playing the worst defense of his 19 years at Memorial Stadium.

And that defense, which has been the name of the game in all the pennant-winning years on 33rd Street, appears to have become a stranger to the residents of the infield there.

And that Al Bumbry and Rich Coggins, as of now, bear no resemblance to the sensations they were when both were strong contenders for the 1973 rookie-of-the-year honors which went to Bumbry.

But now the better news: — Although the pitching has been the target of much criticism downtown, it is not so bad as pictured when viewed along with last year's performance.

While the team's ace, Jim Palmer, was only 2-4 on Wednesday as compared to 4-3 a year earlier, the records of Dave McNally and Mike Cuellar are better.

Dave was 3-6 on May 22, 1973. On Wednesday, he was 3-3. And Cuellar has done a complete reversal. A year ago, he had won only one of his first six games.

By the same date this season, the Cuban lefty had won four of his first seven.

As for the team itself, it may be hard to believe that the record — despite the loose play — is improved.

At midweek (May 22), Baltimore had won 18 games and lost 18 of the first 36. On May 22nd last year, the Birds were 17-19 in their first 36 contests, but went on from there to win the division and then go the full limit before losing the playoff to the subsequent world champion Oakland Athletics.

Poly Will Benefit

(The following guest editorial is a summary of remarks made by Joseph A. Grisinki, a 1972 graduate of Baltimore's Polytechnic High, at the May 9 School Board meeting.)

I feel that Poly's present student body will benefit from co-education.

Upon entering Baltimore Poly Technical Institute, the new student is constantly reminded by the faculty and administration that he is expected to maintain respect and courtesy towards all individuals.

These qualities are admirable and everyone should practice them. In particular, Poly students have a reputation for adhering to these principles.

Unfortunately, their attitude toward females fails short of representing either courtesy or respect.

The Poly student perceives a girl as being a Saturday night date, or prey to be tormented in the Poly-Western quadron. Also any female teacher may be goffed at by multitudinous pairs of lusty eyes.

The real problem which arises from this attitude is one of future concern. As increasing numbers of women enter previously male-dominated vocations, men are realizing that they must adopt a different attitude towards their new co-workers. Women will no longer be considered the servants of their male superiors.

Instead, men will accept women as social equals in labor, industry, business and scholarship.

Therefore, Poly can no longer exclude females from its enrollment. The only way that Poly students can learn to appreciate the quality of the opposite sex is for the School Board to allow females to enroll at Baltimore Polytechnical Institute.

With female students at Poly, the male student will gradually realize that his Saturday night date is also a student of calculus, science, history and English.

In short, he must learn to appreciate females as his intellectual equal if he is ever to fully participate in a society where females are intellectual equals.

Memorial Day Prayer

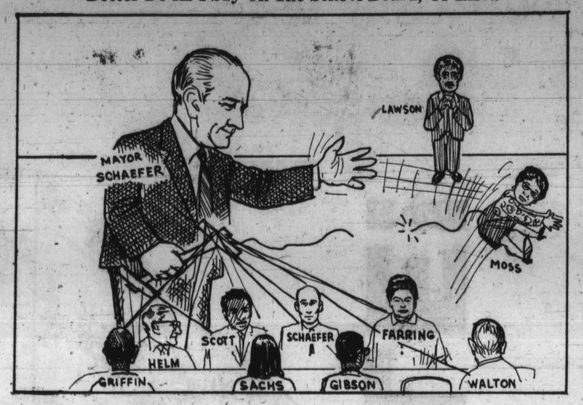
On this Memorial Day, we remember those first through whose sacrifices we came into this world and their grew from helpless infancy to men and women.

Along with them we bless Thee for brothers and sisters, relatives and friends and for pastors and teachers who built their lives into ours.

Keep this remembrance green. Let it be something lovely, precious, bright and shiny, something we shall cherish always to pass on intact to our children. AMEN.

(From the papers of Carl Murphy 1889-1967.)

"Better Do As I Say On The School Board, Or Else!!"



NOW and THEN — by G. James Fleming

Freedom Is Not Totally Free

Freedom is not really free; it has a price. Sometimes freedom is very costly on those freed.

If we replace freedom with the term, opportunity, then it may be also said that "opportunity" is not cheap. It makes demands on those who are exposed to it; upon those who enjoy it.

These ideas come to mind as the nation observes the 20th anniversary of the Supreme Court's celebrated decision in the school desegregation cases (more usually referred to as the Brown case).

It was much easier, and less demanding, to complain of segregated schools and of poorly-supported schools than it is for parents and their children to discipline themselves to make the most of desegregated schools.

Complaining called only for oratory. Competing racially open schools calls upon parents for getting Johnny out of bed, for seeing that he has a nutritious breakfast, for helping him (or talking to him) about his home work, and for setting up guidelines in the home conducive to study. All these are demanding on parents; they take a toll of those concerned.

Similarly, Johnny has a price to pay. It is one thing to complain that "We have no textbooks," or that "Our laboratory is old-fashioned," or "This is an old run-down building."

It is entirely different to use the textbooks which are distributed to whites and blacks alike, or to spend long hours in the lab, or to master the math and English which are so basic to every other study these days.

Yes, freedom and equal opportunity are not free. They come high, they make demands — high demands — on the beneficiaries.

It takes a number of college and professional school students a long, long time to understand — if they ever do — that the opportunity for higher education has a high price tag, a price that has nothing to do with money.

Some college students have admitted to this writer, often too late, that they just did not buy required textbooks at the beginning of a term, and that they seldom did any homework.

Others spree all weekend, every weekend. These practices are so easy, they cost so little.

Some failing law students, when pressed have admitted that they did not take their first weeks in law school seriously. They just did not "hit the books," day after day and night after night. They were never willing to pay the price, before law school, of learning how to read and to master gigantic reading assignments.

Some other law students can't keep away from their undergraduate haunts and friends — especially on weekends—and, thus, neglect their "catching up" reading and law-related "bull-sessions."

They forget, as this writer often tells his own students, that "God created weekends and holidays for students and scholars."

There is no cost to blaming teachers, deans, "the system," and "whitey."

It is a high price to buckle down to the sacrifices and the giving over of self to any high calling.

Whether one looks at some "transitional" neighborhoods, or at the Lexington Street Mall, or on high school or college grounds, one gets the feeling that, in such places, too, we need to remember that freedom and opportunity are not really free.

It is, indeed, an easy input to rail against housing discrimination or "racism" at one school or another, but what kind of input is required once the walls of "racism" have come down, or where there has never been any racial barriers?

The price for better neighborhoods includes keeping them "better" — mowing lawns, keeping debris off streets and sidewalks, holding down loud weekend parties, and so on.

No "beautiful" campus or "attractive" mall can remain that way if those who use them litter, litter, litter and never clean behind them.

This writer has stood on campus or in some wanting-to-be-clean neighborhoods and seen young men and women leaning against trash receptacles while littering around beverage containers, or fruit leftovers.

He has also awakened on a Sunday morning to find his lawn littered with beer bottles, tossed by some late night driver or drivers.

Whether it is freedom to a good education, to a better home and neighborhood, or to broader involvement in politics, and a hundred other opportunities, freedom does carry a price — a high price.

Freedom calls for concern, dedication, commitment, self-discipline, civic pride, and a real sense of being one's brother's brother.

A little About a LOT — by Madeline W. Murphy

Random Thoughts On Vital Issues

Martha Ricci, Where Are You?—Exactly two years ago, May 24, 1972, agenda item II-8 (Old Business) at the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners meeting read: "Recommendation regarding entrance into Poly for Martha Ricci." Martha was subsequently denied admission full time, but was given the right to take selected courses at Poly—which was pretty white of them!

The mixture of sex superiority; traditions that die hard; fear of losing status as the most elite schools—Poly and Western—along with Mayor Schaefer's implied threat: "there are enough problems before the school board at this time;" his usual waffling and failure to take a stand until pressure mounts, are reminiscent of delaying tactics, paternalism and master race theory used by whites against blacks in the busing issue.

What does sex, (race), have to do with maintaining standards? Are we to believe that women, (blacks), are, inherently inferior?

Within the last twenty years since integration became the law of the land, prejudice didn't go away, it hardened.

Early on, blacks were not encouraged to fully integrate the schools fully.

Not so much because whites didn't want us, but because black guidance counselors steered bright black kids to all black schools with the platitude: "it's better to be a big fish in a little pond."

Ironically, today's bright black kids at Poly and Western became "Nervous Nellies" like their near-sighted predecessors, who didn't strike while the iron was hot.

Sexism and racism have the same root—the belief that one group is superior to another, and these young people with all their background in black history should be well aware of it.

The school board would be indeed foolish to fall under pressure to reverse its stand, for once they give in to sexism, integration in any form is dead!

What Goes Around, Comes Around: Cherry Hill should be congratulated for having the wisdom to elect Mrs. Rudell Martin as president of the Cherry Hill Coordinating Council. The same entrenched leadership has been spokesman for Cherry Hill far too long. It has made some bad blunders in its uninterrupted reign. The liquor store is one of them.

It's funny that the outgoing president, Shepherd H. Burge, Jr., should yell "foul," that the meeting was illegal, while he characterized all who voted against him as "hoodlums and drug addicts." (An unfortunate blunder!)

But in 1966, he caused an illegal election by stalling the meeting long enough for non-members to arrive from a Wednesday night prayer meeting, rigging the election in favor of his slate and himself! Poetic justice, if I ever saw it.

You Win Some; You Lose Some! And speaking of rigged meetings, Judge George L. Russell Jr., in a quasi-open meeting, May 16, made his final report as receiver of Provident Hospital.

As questions were raised by Community Health Council President Dr. Oakley Saunders, about a more representative trustee board — keeping the Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee intact until a new trustee board was reconstituted, (a promise made by the receiver early in the game) — parliamentary maneuvers, character assassinations made by well-rehearsed members of the Russell faction, effectively blocked any definitive action or answers from the podium.

A hot time in the meeting hall dealing with motions to table; who had the right to vote; (one Russell devotee even exclaimed, "I didn't come here to listen to all this, I came to have a nice meeting and go home."), was calmed and sobered by the Rev. Vernon Dobson, who deplored the paternalism, the antagonism generated from the podium, and authoritarianism used by the leaders of the meeting.

He reminded all present that Provident was always supported by community people and would only survive if community people worked in partnership with the Trustees on the Trustee Board.

But alas, the old self-perpetuation board will reconstitute itself, and it is very unlikely that it will vote itself out of office, even though it was party to receivership in the first place.

What next, black Baltimore? It's up to you, if you care about keeping one of the few black institutions left to us alive and well.

AFRO Credo

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God and in the present generation. It must always ask itself—

Whether it has kept faith with the common people;"

Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved and their future assured;

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

Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and condemn injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise. (Dec. 25, 1920)

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

WASHINGTON

Inequities In Data System

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

(Writer's note: This week's column is by Jackie Hess of my Washington Office, who is a Legislative Assistant whose special areas of interest and competence include: consumer affairs; transportation; and education.)

Congressman Mitchell has spoken often in the past, of the "velvet racism" which presently engulfs this country. Many whites seem to feel that he needlessly belabors the point.

To them, when the "white only" signs came down, this country became one of "equality and justice for all."

Unfortunately, this could not be farther from the truth.

I would like to apprise you of a situation which recently came to my attention. There are thousands others like it, which for all practical purposes, render null and void the Civil Rights Act of 1964:—

Three years ago, the Maryland Data System for the Handicapped was created to compile and correlate information pertaining to Maryland's handicapped children. The figures presented are those used by the Maryland State Board of Education in their efforts to meet the needs of the children.

In other words, in order to discover what type of aid is being given to black handicapped children, one has only to look at the figures upon which that help is based.

An organization interested in what appeared to them to be the inequities of the Data System for the Handicapped, the Children's Defense Fund, has taken just such a look at the D.S.H. figures. They found the D.S.H. data to be divided into five tables:

1. Multiple Agency Enrollment
2. Purchase of Care
3. Comparison of Services Needed with Services Available
4. Distribution by Manifestation Group, Race, Age, Sex and County
5. Averaging Lag Time-Referral to Service Delivery

Of the five tables, only the one which could do the most damage in terms of labelling, the fourth, includes a racial breakdown.

As the Children's Defense Fund notes in its report:

. . "If D.S.H. officials were sincere in their claim of interest in providing equal opportunity statistics, it might possibly have been helpful to include racial breakdowns in the other four (service oriented as opposed to category label oriented) tables, thus giving some picture as to how non-whites are discriminated against in terms of purchase of care, lack of needed services available, greater lag time, etc. . . ."

To further compound the problem, table 4, which does make racial distinctions, makes them in the following manner:

1. While 62 per cent of the 73,027 children in the study are white and 38 per cent are non-white, and while whites constitute between 61 per cent and 75 per cent of those labelled among 12 of the 13 manifestation groups, non-whites constitute a huge majority — 61 per cent of those labelled mentally retarded.

2. Baltimore City which has a large non-white majority and which has only 32 per cent of the study's reported population has over 50 per cent of those labelled mentally retarded.

3. Almost 50 per cent of Baltimore City's reported labels were "retarded" labels, while less than 30 per cent of the total reported labels were "retarded" labels.

4. Comparison of Baltimore City with the next largest reporting jurisdiction — Baltimore County — shows that: while the county only reports slightly more "retardations" that "SLD's" (Specific Learning Disabilities) (2416 to 2131), the city reports over four times as many "retardations" as SLD's (11,527 to 2,836); and while the county reports much fewer "retardations" (2416) than "speech and language disabilities" (4200), the City reports over twice as many "retardations" (11,527) as "speech and language disabilities."

This type of racism, institutional racism, is every bit as dangerous, if not more so, as individual racism.

And until the black community learns exactly at what level the power which affects its life lies, it will continue to "buy" the "company" line.

In every field there is a comparable "Data System" which provides the information upon which all subsequent decisions are made.

PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro American

A—5 MAY 25, 1975

Readers Rap On Many Issues

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.

Anti-Smoking Bill

Dear AFRO:

New information brought to public attention last week reveals that middle-aged men who smoke a pack of cigarettes a day are six-times more likely to have strokes than similar nonsmokers.

The same study revealed that a nonsmoker with high blood pressure and low blood cholesterol can also have a high risk of stroke.

The Surgeon General of the United States reported ten years ago that cigarette smoking is a major hazard to life and health. He noted that cigarette smoke may be as dangerous to the nonsmoker as to the smoker.

That report noted that the "sidestream" smoke of one cigarette contains approximately five-times as much carbon monoxide and three-times as much particulate matter as that which the smoker inhales.

It points out that in a typical office of 7,000 square feet, one cigarette smoked in four minutes raises the carbon monoxide level about three milligrams per cubic meter of air and the suspended particulate concentration four milligrams per cubic meter of air.

In a poorly ventilated room concentrations of carbon monoxide can reach several hundred milligrams. These levels exceed the air quality standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency.

This has led Representative Peter N. Kyros (D. Maine) to introduce legislation in Congress banning smoking on commercial airline flights in the United States.

Yet a bill I introduced in Annapolis this year to ban smoking in elevators, indoor theatres, libraries, art museums, concert halls or buses was turned down by the legislature.

The bill was misinterpreted by the tobacco industry as harmful to the industry, despite the fact that it in no way prohibited smoking or affected the sale of cigarettes.

Senate Bill 67 even provided for the establishment of certain areas in these public places for smoking. Spokesmen for the industry continued to deny the evidence that smoking is harmful.

Since I introduced the legislation, I have heard from many people throughout our state who are concerned with the harmful effects of smoking.

Fifty-eight per cent of adult men do not smoke and seventy per cent of adult women do not smoke.

In addition, many smokers although they continue to smoke themselves, realize that it is unfair to force nonsmokers to be exposed to the harmful effects of cigarette smoke. Nonsmokers have rights too!

They are becoming more militant about these rights as more evidence is produced showing the harmful effects.

I want to assure the many concerned citizens interested in removing this public health hazard that I shall continue to introduce legislation to protect their rights on this count until other members of the Legislature realize the seriousness of this threat to public health, and join me to take steps to alleviate it.

VERDA F. WELCOME
(State Senator, Baltimore City's 4th District)

Where Are They?

Dear AFRO:

My wife and I are concerned that racism is once again open and rampant in our city. We see the graceless and humiliating dismissal of Mrs. Moss from the School Board by the mayor as an example of flagrant racism. We are unable to understand why black leaders have not condemned PUBLICLY the mayor's high-handed and racist action.

The other actions concern the attacks on Dr. Samuel Banks because of his courageous and forthright stand in support of school integration.

Dr. Banks is a brilliant educator and knows what he is talking about. We saw him do a beautiful job recently on the Larry Angel Show and George Collins' Man-to Man. We as blacks must have the courage to stand beside people like Mrs. Moss and Dr. Banks.

Incidentally, where is our superintendent? We should be hearing more from him on these issues.

KEITH JOHNSON

For The People

Dear AFRO:

I wish to express my gratitude to the editor of "Readers' Rap" for the printing of my article: "Inmate Compares Teens to Angela Davis."

On behalf of all the men and women behind prison walls, we have come to recognize the AFRO's hard work in trying to keep alive the philosophy of its founder, John H. Murphy Sr.

You have served the people in free society, and those of us behind these walls who want to bring about a system of positive rehabilitation for inmates seeking to conform.

R. H. WITHERS

Protect Animals

Dear AFRO:

Concerned animal lovers must let their councilmen know Baltimore City urgently requires a good bill to protect animals and people (in that order and expletives not deleted!).

The large number of people who attended last week's public hearing of Bill 1373 shows the need is great. Make your wishes known, so your representative can be guided in the proper direction.

Hopefully, Baltimore City will come up with a good bill which the County sees fit to imitate, because the cat and dog problem is actually a city and county problem.

It doesn't stop at the boundary markers — animals can't read. Maybe the city and County should join in the ffort if it's to be really effective.

B. J. SMALL

Column of CHOICE by Marion Banfield

"Who am I?" is a question we are realizing that adolescents must ask themselves. It needs to be asked enough for our young people to give more thought to this vital search for identity.

The question was raised with a group of teen age girls whom Frieda Coleman and I have in a group at Family and Children's Society.

These young women eagerly responded. They identified themselves with hope, with setting future goals. There were satisfactions and disappointments. But they took time to look well at themselves.

We as women, regardless of age, need to take stock of ourselves. Who are we? While some of us sit mournfully around cursing the world and our bad luck, others spend their energies achieving goals.

I find great admiration for my clients who have escaped the bitter humiliation of prison but end up carrying responsibilities in employment and in marriage or parenthood in a really satisfying way.

Is the woman nurse who ignores a hurting patient really nursing the sick? Is the social worker who sees her clients as societies failures unworthy of enough money for adequate food and shelter really fulfilling the job for which she was hired?

I wonder how the teacher who looks down on her failing students justifies herself as one paid to help children learn?

Does being a source of comfort and inspiration to a man, to children give inner satisfaction and joy?

Is being on a job day by day a more effective accomplishment because a woman was there who took pride in her self and her assignment?

A choice is for women to look at themselves as thinking persons, defining their own goals, assuming responsibilities by choice, not by accident.

A choice is for women to recognize that their own dignity, self-respect, and intelligence can give us power and control to shape our own immediate environment.

That conscious use of personal worth is a key to making us more effective in our homes, in our local community, and in the institutions of government.

Register To Vote

Do so TODAY at Supervisors of Elections, People's Court Building, Fayette and Gay Streets, Baltimore. Open daily, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. You can also register by mail. Forms available at all branches of Enoch Pratt Library, Community Action Agency centers as well as at Supervisors of Elections. Next primary election for Governor and state legislators is September 10, 1974, August 12, 1974 is the last day to register.

If YOU Ask ME — by Bettye Moss

About Preakness, Morgan And W.D. Schaefer

You meet the nicest people at the Preakness. We shared a box with this area's newest couple, Dr. Martin D. Jenkins and Ms. Bernice DeCosta Davis.

Dr. Jenkins, the president-emeritus of Morgan State College, now with the American Council On Education in Washington is a widower.

Mrs. Davis, a very attractive divorcee, is an executive with the Rockville, Md. schools, and a member of FF of S.C. (First Family of South Carolina, that is.)

Speaking of new couples — Dr. Renold Lighston, the Cherry Hill physician, also a widower, has a new wife.

She is the former Agnes Walker Stamnneto, a widow of Metairei, La. They were married here in Baltimore on April 4.

Attending Morgan State College graduation on Sunday was an experience this writer won't soon forget.

I was overwhelmed by the Preakness crowd, but the Morgan throng of 7,000 plus was more emotional and heartwarming too.

In fact, it was like old home week . . . seeing people from far and near and meeting old high school classmates whom you haven't seen in 40 years.

For example, Walter (Mike) Wooding, who caused heartbeats among many in our Douglass High School class back in 1934, was there with his attractive wife, Pauline Scott Wooding.

Their daughter, Amber Stephany received a degree in history, and is already employed at Social Security.

Other Wooding children present: — daughter, Marsha Logan and her policeman-husband, Thaddeus Logan; grandson, Paul Fitzgerald Wooding. Others in family include grown son, Walter Wooding Jr.

Cuff note: Mr. Wooding Sr. is a postal employee.

Famous face seen in the crowd: John Woodruff of East Windsor, N.J., the one time (1936) Olympic half-mile champ, here to see son, John of New Rochelle, get a bachelor's in history.

Spied Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin J. Kimbers of Hilton Rd., Their son, Benjamin 3rd, earned degree in biology.

Charlie Thomas was there with his wife, Florine Hutchins Thomas for graduation of Ms. Berniece Chism Hutchins, the teacher, who got her master's in education.

Also saw, Mr. and Mrs. William Quinn (Mary) of Powhatan Ave., their daughter, Pamela, earned degree in social work.

More at Morgan: — Harold Winston was down from Philly with his wife, Bernice and other relatives to see their niece, Anne Johnson get her sheepskin.

Proudest mother in the crowd honors must go to Mrs. Etta Mae Hill of Key Ave., Patapsco Park, mother of six.

Her daughter, Mary, earned degree in history, is headed for U. of Md. Law School. Just as proud was family friend with them, Mrs. Arnetta Beverly, a neighbor in their Anne Arundel County community.

Mrs. Earl Anderson (Palestine), was there. She has just returned from Hartford Conn., where her daughter, Lynn, earned master's in social work. Another Baltimore U. of Conn. grad in the class was Ronnie Wooten.

Big family: Supreme Bench Judge Robert B. Watts, who received an honorary degree, had plenty of family support. His wife, Jackie, his sister, Lucille, and her husband, Emile Gibson, all Morgan grads, as well as their children and the Watts children, Bobbette, 13; Genelle, 15; and Jacqueline, 19.

Former Roanoke Rapids, N.C. AFRO carrier met at Morgan, Eugene Clark of New Jersey. He accompanied his friend, Mrs. Shirley Brooks and her two children, Tommy and Lydia, for graduation of her cousin, James Jones.

Morgan graduation speaker — Dr. Benjamin Quarles, the famed author and historian, was the first Morgan professor to be selected to give the commencement address.

His lecture on the significance of the philosophy of Frederick Douglass, the first civil rights leader, had great impact.

Alumnus of year award to Dr. C. R. Campbell, the campus doctor. Couldn't happen to a finer person.

Saturday evening event which provided plenty of relaxation for a worthy cause was billed The Preakness Eye Ball, sponsored by the Medical Eye Bank.

Event was at the beautiful new Waxter Center where there was something for everybody — casino tables, supper, gift shop, dancing by two orchestras (Cuff note: Orchestras on both levels really could play my favorite, 'Tenderly.')

George Jude and his wife, Vashti, are members. Other guests at their table were Sam and Gloria Phillips, Ed and Elizabeth Williams and John and Alice Murphy.

Get-well cards to Mrs. Yancy Whittaker (Helen), the teacher, who had surgery Monday at University Hospital. She's in Room 1127.

Sherlock Grinage, a Kronheim vice president and sales manager, is on the mend and out and about after that stay in Hopkins Hospital.

THE WOODINGS — Mr. and Mrs. Walter and their daughter, Amber, at Morgan graduation See If You Ask Me for details. (AFRO photo by Moss)

About Mayor Schaefer: This newspaper publisher is not a bit surprised that Baltimore city's Mayor W. D. Schaefer would remove me from the School Board without the courtesy of a call or a letter before he announced my replacement.

This kind of urde treatement of public servants who get no pay for their labors has been the rule rather than the exception in recent weeks — at least since the teachers' strike began

The mayor has summoned school board members to his office and talked to them like children. The first time was when he gave orders we school commissioners were not to talk about the strike issue.

When Uncle Sam, through HEW, (the Health Education and Welfare Civil Rights Division), gave the Baltimore schools a mandate to come up with a plan to desegregate the city schools by this fall, it happened again.

Before we went off to Washington on April 30 to meet with HEW officials, he 'suggested' we include no mention of bussing as a possible tool to obey the law but rather that we emphasize metropolitan (some vague form of cooperation with nearby county school systems.)

And we went over and told HEW about metropolitanism and those lawyers very frankly said the order to Baltimore was to integrate the city schools, metropolitanism was not the issue. We looked foolish.

Again, after returning from Washington, the board had gathered to develop guidelines required by HEW and due in Washington by May 30, Mayor Schaefer came to the May 9 meeting unannounced, said he wanted no mention of bussing in the guidelines. When this member asked what if bussing was one of the tools required to obey the law, there was a veiled threat that he wouldn't stand for it.

Coupled with the Mayor's dictation to the board has been his continued harassment of the city's first black superintendent and a lack of support for him and his innovative programs, such as previous superintendents have received.

Further, the mayor has even injected himself into school administration matters.

At the recent grievance hearing for former school art director Richard L. Micherdzinski who was challenging Superintendent Patterson's assignment of him as specialist, the mayor sent word through counsel that he wanted the art director promoted to coordinator.

The board voted to sustain the superintendent's assignment and Mr. M. was granted a leave to join the mayor's staff.

This school commissioner voted with the majority.

This school commissioner voiced to the mayor the illegality of his metropolitanism stance and his no busing edict.

This school commissioner cast the deciding vote to open Polytechnic Institute to girls (5-4).

For these and other independent — actions often at variance with what the mayor says, 'I want or else,' this school board member was abruptly kicked off the board and after 14 years without a courteous note ahead of time.

So be it.

Removing this school board member or others will not solve Baltimore's complex school problems. Abolishing the entire board won't either.

What is needed is for Mayor Schaefer to stop meddling in school affairs and acting as superintendent and board. Instead, he should listen to the advice of concerned parents and dedicated citizens who have demonstrated through their long service on the board that they are just as concerned as he about the future of the city and the progress in our schools.

And, for those of us who are black, representing the 70 per cent black children in our schools, our commitment is even stronger and we do it without pay.

We are not running for office in 1975 like the mayor is, so our actions and decisions are not circumspect

Prayer Note: A half hour before Mayor Schaefer made his sudden move on Friday we met at his prayer breakfast where he talked piously about 'caring' about people, the city. He told how he prayed at City Hall when problems mounted.

I shook his hands afterwards and congratulated him for the moving program!

Morale: Don't go to those prayer breakfast meetings. Talk is cheap. How you live and interact to your fellow man is more important.

Did I hear AMEN?

Travel note: Here from Detroit for Morgan graduation of her nephew Rodger Murphy Matthews was Mrs. Robert Dudley (Margaret), Youngster is son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Matthews 3rd (Vashti), of Baltimore.

Cuff note: After witnessing graduation, Mrs. Dudley flew off to Germany to hear her daughter play with the philharmonic. Daughter, Margaret, plays the bassoon, has won a number of honors in her native Detroit and other mid-west points.

Story in this newspaper's national edition tells of the death in Detroit of Dr. John T. (Stretch) Sydnor. He was a physician in Norfolk, Va. for 25 years, before moving to Michigan.

Note for brothers in Omega Psi Phi and Guardsmen: Last rites were May 3 in Detroit.

Service awards to 68 Harford County school employees who served a total of 960 years were given Monday during recognition ceremony at Holiday Inn, Aberdeen.

Among honorees getting 20 year awards: Mrs. Cora L. Fleming, Meadowvale Elementary; Mrs. Willie H. Paige, Wakefield Elementary; and William L. Taylor, Havre de Grace High. Ten year honors went to: William Jefferson, Bel Air High; and Mrs. Jewel W. Scott, Havre de Grace Middle School.

TO LAW SCHOOL — Miss Mary M. Hill, Anne Arundel County Morgan grad, shown with her mother, Mrs. Etta Mae Hill, left, and family friend, Mrs. Arnetta Beverly. (AFRO photo by Moss)

Afro LINE

. . . AFRO LINE is an effective AFRO community service to help you solve problems, whatever they may be.

. . . All you have to do is write a post card 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:—I write this letter to protest the recorded taped propaganda about black Americans and busing which I understand is done by a group called the N.S.W.P. What can be done about this?

E.X.

ANSWER: Nothing, says a representative of the C and P Telephone Co., who advises AFRO Line the recorded message is not a violation of the law because it uses no obscene language.

AFRO Line suggests its readers do NOT have to pick up the phone and listen to this garbage. Ignore the hate messengers. If someone calls you and suggests you dial the number, don't.

QUESTION: — I am a very sick woman, cancer of the leg and confined to the bed. I have about 1 year to live, my problem is my landlord wouldn't fix up or paint anything in my home.

I pay $150 a month plus gas and electric plus a water bill. When I called to have the housing inspector look at my home, they sent him a long list of things to be corrected, faulty wiring, broken steps and so forth.

I received a notice to vacate the house by June 6, 1974. When I called the landlord he told me he was selling the house because I had complained against him. He said I had to vacate the premises before it was renovated.

I have never missed paying my rent and I know I had a right to complain.

I have no one to turn to but legal aid in housing, but they are on the landlord's side. I have no money to move with and no place to go. What can I do?.

Mrs. J. V.

ANSWER: AFRO line suggests you get in touch with Don Miller at Baltimore Neighborhoods Inc. at once. His phone number is 243-6007. Let AFRO Line know if you need further help.

QUESTION: This is a request for a more complete investigation into the so-called accidental death of that patient in the nursing home.

I just want to say that you can be sure that she did not get in the tub by herself She couldn't get in or out of the bed by herself. What are the facts? S.J.

ANSWER: Records of the Medical Examiner show that the death has been declared accidental. AFRO Line suggests that if reader has information to disprove this, contact office of State's Attorney Milton B. Allen, Court House, Baltimore, Md., 21201.

Let AFRO Line know what hapens.

81 YEARS AGO—"The interest 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)

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