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 JULY 6, 1974

Don't drop the ball

Like we said before, it's time for Baltimore's NAACP to get busy and get together a workable plan for desegregation in the Baltimore City public schools and file it in federal court.

Twenty years ago, the NAACP took the leadership in bringing about the historic Brown decision which ended separate public schools throughout the nation.

This dilly-dallying by northern schools, as described in an AFRO article last week by Dr. Kenneth Clark is inexcusable.

It is time to get rid of the delays.

And if the Baltimore NAACP does not get into court promptly, an interested parent can and should take the leadership to compel Baltimore to comply with the federal mandate for massive desegregation by the opening of schools in September, 1974.

This is a must. The desegregation plan which Baltimore city officials and the school board have presented is mere tokenism.

Any parent, or group of parents with a child in a segregated school can fight this tokenism. All he or she has to do is file a better plan with the courts.

One proposal far better than that sent to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare was one offered the desegregation task force by school social studies coordinator, Dr. Samuel Banks.

Black children historically have been cheated by having to attend inferior, segregated schools.

They still carry on their young shoulders the burden of largely, and illegally, having to attend the schools with higher percentage of problems and inadequacies.

They also will be hurt most in September if the city's tokenism plan is rejected and HEW cuts off some badly needed funds.

The AFRO had hoped city officials would have been more responsible in filing a plan. They have failed, but we who care must not drop the ball.

No stamp needed

August 12 is the last day to register in order to qualify to vote in the September 10 primary election, at which time candidates for governor, members of the legislature and other state officials will be nominated.

In previous years, the AFRO has campaigned to make it easy for voters to qualify. We recall many times when it was necessary to parade a delegation to the Supervisors of Elections and the mayor's office to find money, time and places to register people.

Today, thanks to the efforts of Womanpower, the ministers and other concerned groups and some public officials, it's all changed.

Persons can now register by mail. Envelopes can be picked up at the AFRO office, public libraries, Community Action Agency Centers and other public places throughout the city where workers are already distributing them.

It is simple. You fill out the questions, give your name and address, sign the application and drop it in the mail box. The envelope is already self addressed to the Supervisors of Elections. No stamp is necessary.

Certainly it is encumbent upon the unregistered, particularly youngsters who are 17 now and will be 18 by the November general elections to exercise their citizenship right and prepare to vote.

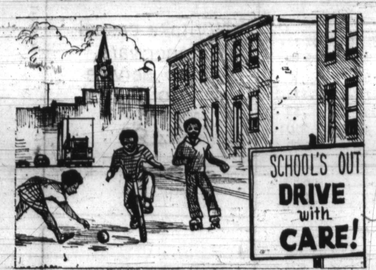
They can set the example for older members of the family and encourage them to do likewise.

It's one thing to complain about injustice. It's another thing to register and then to vote into office those people who are your friends and vote out and against people who have little or no concern for your interests and well-being.

Note for drivers

Baltimore schools closed last Friday. Unfortunately most of the city's 187,000 school children have no place to vacation, so the city's hot streets will be their playground.

This calls for extra caution by motorists and cyclists. Please drive carefully. School is out.



★THE FOURTH OF JULY 59 YEARS AGO★

from the AFRO-AMERICAN Editorial Page-1915

There is special reason why the American Negro should patriotically observe the Fourth of July.

It is the anniversary of that great American document called the Declaration of Independence, drafted by the foremost friend of the Negro race, of that period, Thomas Jefferson. The name of Jefferson should ever be venerated among us.

There are two documents with which every intelligent and patriotic colored man should be most familiar. The Declaration of Independence, and that Immortal response which it drew forth from the brain and pen of Benjamin Banneker.

Every Negro should read and re-read Banneker's great and immortal letter to Jefferson. With the approach of the Fourth of July, a few extracts from the writings of Thomas Jefferson may not be without interest.

Says Jefferson:

"A man's moral sense must be unusually strong if slavery does not make him a thief. He who is permitted by law to have no property of his own can with difficulty conceive that property is founded on anything but force."

Writing to Edward Rutledge, on the Suppression of the Slave Trade, he says: "I congratulate you, my dear friend, on the law of your State, for suspending the importation of slaves, and for the glory you have justly acquired by endeavoring to prevent it forever. This abomination must have an end. And there is a superior bench reserved in heaven for those who hasten it."

Writing, from Paris, in 1785, to a Dr. Price, he says: "In Maryland I do not find such a disposition to begin the redress of this enormity (slavery) as in Virginia.

"This is the next State to which we may turn our eyes for the interesting spectacle of justice, in conflict with avarice and oppression, a conflict wherein the sacred side is gaining daily recruits, from the influx into office of young men grown and growing up.

"These have sucked in the principle of liberty, as it were, with their mother's milk; and it is to them I look with anxiety to turn the fate of this question."

But, Mr. Jefferson was sound on the question of human rights, because he was fundamentally sound in good morals.

Mr. Jefferson, writing very affectionately to a young man, gives good and wholesome advice worthy of all young men! Let our young colored men, already in business, or who hope to enter therein, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the following:

"Make these, then, your first object. Give up money, give up fame, give up science, give up the earth itself and all it contains, rather than do an immoral act.

"And never suppose, that in any possible situation, or under any circumstances, it is best for you to do a dishonorable thing, however slightly so it may appear to you.

"Whenever you are to do a thing, though it can never be known but to yourself, ask yourself how you would act were all the world looking at you, and act accordingly.

"Encourage all your virtuous dispositions, and exercise them whenever an opportunity arises, being assured that they will gain strength by exercise, as a limb of the body does, and that exercise will make them habitual.

He added: "From the practice of the purest virtue, you may be assured that you will derive the most sublime comforts in every moment of life, and in the moment of death.

"If ever you find yourself environed with difficulties and perplexing circumstances, out of which you are at a loss how to extricate yourself, do what is right, and be assured that that will extricate you the best of the worst situations.

"Though you can not see, when you take one step, what will be the next, yet follow truth, justice, and plain dealing, and never fear their leading you out of the labyrinth, in the easiest manner possible. The knot which you thought a Gordian one, will untie itself before you."

Mr. Jefferson was a friend of the black man, and let us not forget it.

A lover's quarrel with world

By Rabbi Judah Mintz

O Lord, we love this country.
And because we love it,
We pray for the courage to quarrel with it,
As did the prophets of old,
And as do the men of conscience today.

Give us the courage to quarrel
With the worship of success and Stats,
With the belief that people are less
Precious than property,
And with the myth that in missiles there
is real safety.

Give us the courage to quarrel
With the idolators who say:
'My country right or wrong'
Instead of saying:
'My country — when it is right,
My country to be made right,
Whenever it is wrong.'

Give us the courage to quarrel
With those who believe we can afford
A journey to the moon
But who claim that we cannot afford
To abolish poverty here on earth.

Give us the courage to quarrel
With a society that spends more on
cosmetics
Than it does on charity,
More on cigarettes
Than it does on cancer research.

Give us the courage to quarrel
With those who find it easier to condemn
Communism
Than to practice the teachings of
Democracy.

Give us the courage to quarrel
With those who dump surpluses
And who pay farmers not to plant,
While human beings starve
Here and around the world.

Give us the courage to quarrel
With those who can appreciate the
patriotism of a soldier
But who cannot understand the courage
of a conscientious objector.

Give us the courage to quarrel
With all the forces within our society
That dehumanize, that profane, and that
separate men.

But let our quarreling, O Lord, not be
destructive.
Let it be out of love, not envy.
Let it be in order to correct and improve,
Not just for the sake of tearing down.

Let us be counted among those
Who alleviate pain by sharing it.

Let us be counted among those
Who are not satisfied with the status
quo,
But who yearn and work for a better
world.

May we bring into this world,
A bit more truth, a bit more justice,
A bit more love
Than there would have been,
If we had not loved the world enough
To quarrel with it —
Out of a vision of what it ought to be.
May our prayers and our deeds be
pleasing to You, O Lord
Whose lover's quarrel with the world
Is the history of mankind.

A little about a lot — by Madeline W. Murphy

Mrs. King's death—an optimist has her say!

After hearing a weekend of doom, where the senseless violence of murder shook Ebenezer Baptist Church and the King family, a third time, in Atlanta, where voices have been raised in a wail that all is hopeless — there is nothing that will change the path of American violence and self-destruction — I began to think about the history of mankind — of the Bible and what it tells of men in his wars, murders, greed, pestilence, famine, because of his selfishness, his fervent desire to become God.

Then I thought of an aunt of mine who used to caution me to stop feeling that I was the only one who cared about the problems of the world; that indeed there were thousands of others who cared, quietly worked in their own quiet ways, who I'd never know, casting down their buckets where they were.

And it brought to mind how egotistically many of us view the world and the solutions to its problems, as if we were the first to exchange our rose-colored glasses for those dismal gray-brown ones.

This kind of egotism dampens hope and hysterically feeds dismay and anxiety.

Just because we feel helpless, seem to be the only articulate ones, we become arrogantly oblivious to countless unsung others, who are doing, being, working to make change come about in the world. Yes, inspite of the Nixons, Agnews and their ilk.

It is in dark moments like these that we must remind ourselves that each generation, since time began, has had its trials. That each day has had its challenges; each week, its higher mountains to climb.

I suppose, however, it is because man worries so much about his mortality, his striving for immortality, that he is anxious to see things become perfect in his lifetime, must seek to be the Messiah, over and over and over!

We must decide for ourselves, never forsake, if it is merely maundering, mere lip service when the preacher cautions in the words of Christ: "Therefore, do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Let the day's own trouble be sufficient for the day."

The unrelenting admonition behind this advice is that we must first seek his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be ours as well.

The daily challenge is to devote each day to each day's problems, addressing ourselves to the poor we see, the hungry to be fed, the naked to be clothed, without looking for any other assistance except our love and willingness to be part of the family of mankind, and to share what we have.

A revolutionary concept that must catch on. A concept alien to this dog-eat-dog society. Call it socialism, but Christ shook the world with it!

1774 began the American Revolution. 1974 must reawaken our revolutionary zeal to make each day count for our brothers and sisters, sharing with them, giving them hope, not despair.

But then again, you might agree with Mark Twain, after reading this that "There is no sadder sight than a young pessimist, except an old optimist."

Now and then — by G. James Fleming

Politics remains a struggle for power

New proof there is, if proof were needed, that getting rid of the Jack Pollacks and other white political bosses, does not mean that politics becomes sweetness and light.

Politics — even black politics — remains what politics has always been: A struggle for one to become the top dog, a struggle for power.

In other parlance, it is a struggle to win and take home all the marbles, to capture the championship.

It should be no surprise, therefore, that the campaign to elect state Senators and Delegates is heating up, starting with the old Second and Fourth Legislative Districts, as they prepare for the September Democratic Primary.

Once it looked as if it would be easy sailing for veteran Senator Verda Welcome, now running for reelection from the new 40th Legislative District, but Delegate Frank Conaway also has filed for the upper house, opposing Senator Welcome.

Senator Welcome has not lost a race since she entered politics in 1958, and she has a terrific, hard-working following, year in and year out.

She is on several important Senate committees and she maintains a fulltime office in her district.

But, young, spell-binding Delegate Conaway also has a large following, mostly of younger people, and he knows how to capture the headlines. He takes credit for introducing more bills in the House of Delegates than any of his black colleagues.

Delegate Conaway, ending his first term in the legislature, is running as an independent, heading his own ticket.

He says the wishes of his supporters have impelled him to run. To repeat, he is after Senator Welcome's scalp, but not because she is Verda Welcome, but because she is in his way on the road to the Senate.

Instead of a low-key and low-cost campaign for her Fourth District Democratic Organization, Senator Welcome will have to spearhead an old-fashioned campaign, in a primary where Democratic victory is equal to actual election.

Delegate Conaway found himself with no organizational sponsor due to the recent reapportionment which allows only three Delegates per district.

He discovered that, in a "deal" between Sen. Welcome and the Metro Democratic Club, it was decided, eventually, to pass him up ("drop") him for Delegate Kenneth Webster, the latter one of the most industrious members of the Fourth District Democratic Organization and also of Woman Power, Inc.

First, it appeared that Conaway just would not run at all; then he planned on being a candidate for reelection as Delegate; finally, he thought, "Why not go whole hog?" "Whole hog" means going after Senator Welcome's seat.

Senator Mitchell, also of the old Fourth District, a few weeks ago, also figured that he would have rather easy going, back to the State Senate despite a real threat from Delegate Hildagardeis Boswell — one as eloquent and as "no-holds-barred" as is Mitchell, and one known far and wide for her stand on 3-year contract marriages.

Now, however, in addition to Delegate Boswell, Senator Mitchell must face another opponent, one just as hard-hitting and as "any-thing goes" as the senator himself, in the person of Dr. Emerson R. Julian, the questioning, biting City Councilman.

Dr. Julian is also popular and, like Senator Mitchell, he puts no organizational connection ahead of No. One. From now to Primary Day, in boxing language, it will be a case of "In his corner, wearing black trunks, Puncher Mitchell" and "In this corner, wearing green trunks, Slugger Julian."

In the three-way conflagration — Mitchell-Boswell-Julian — there is no telling what will happen until the voters go to the polls.

In the old Second Legislative District, not so long ago, few political pros would have bet that State Senator Robert L. Dalton would not walk away with the endorsement of his Eastside Democratic Organization, for renomination in the primary and subsequent reelection.

But, that is not the way things turned out. Instead, the organization has dropped Dalton and is backing City Councilman Robert Douglas for the Senate from the new 45th District.

As a result, Senator Dalton is running as an independent.

Both men are considered top-notch political operators, and both are credited with serving their constituents well. A fellow-senator observed that "Dalton is one of the most respected men in the Senate."

So, in the second as in the Fourth, it will be a hot time as the September primary approaches, and what we know now is only the beginning.

'Segregation is the adultery of an illicit intercourse between injustices and immorality . . .'
(By Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in a page one story in the AFRO-AMERICAN, July, 1963, a month before the historic March on Washington).

Washington — by Parren J. Mitchell

Campaign reform would aid black candidates

(Mr. Mitchell is D-7th District-Maryland U.S. House of Representatives)

The Watergate mess demands immediate campaign reforms including the Public Financing of Elections.

When a man or a corporation gives a million dollars to a campaign, the candidate, if elected, is controlled a million dollars worth.

We shall never have clean government in the country until we have real campaign reform.

Obviously black citizens have a major stake in campaign reform.

Let me try to illustrate the point. There are 435 members of the U.S. House of Representatives. Blacks make up approximately 11 per cent of the nation's population.

Therefore, there ought be at least fifty black people serving in the Congress, instead, there are only sixteen of us.

Why is this so?

The answer is simple — money.

Congressional campaigns are costly; whites have higher incomes than Blacks; and, in the past, have shown a greater willingness to contribute to political campaigns.

There is another reason why blacks ought be greatly concerned about campaign reform.

Very often the committed Black official becomes the target for the vested interests which can and do load the opponent down with money.

Take the case of Congressman Ronald Dellums of California, who is an able, outspoken, committed black congressman.

He incurred the anger of a particular interest group, which made a commitment to raise $250,000 for a campaign fund for a young white man who would challenge Dellums.

The prospective opponent had the decency to carry the story to the Los Angeles Times, which published it and thus broke the opposition's strategy.

Dellums has won his primary election but faces the possibility of a tough fight in the general election.

Congressman William Clay, a tough, outspoken, black congressman from St. Louis is in a rough primary fight with another black candidate who has been financially undergirded by the corporate interests of St. Louis to the tune of approximately $200,000 so far.

This was done because Bill Clay is considered "too Black." Clay will win re-election because he is a rough fighter and has been a good congressman.

According to the report of the Clerk of the House of Representatives in the 1972 campaign, I spent $27,414.31 while my opponent spent $182,154.09.

The Senate has taken action on Congressional reform.

It has acted on a Bill providing optional public financing of all Federal elections, including primaries.

Under the bill, candidates would have a choice of relying totally on public funds, depending on private resources, or using a mix of public and private campaign funds.

The source of the public subsidy would be the income tax check-off . . . Candidates for President would be eligible for about $24 million.

Major House candidates would get up to $90,000.

Senate candidates would receive a minimum of $175,000 and up to 15 cents times the state's voting age population (in California, $2.1 million).

Public funding in primaries would be Federal matching money available to candidates once they showed broad public support by raising a threshold amount in small contributions.

Enforcement would be through a 7-member Federal Elections Commission appointed by President with consent of Senate.

Limits would be set on individual private donors: $3,000 to any one candidate in a single election; $20,000 in aggregate donation in any calendar year

The U.S. House of Representatives has not yet passed a Public Financed Campaign Bill. I hope it acts favorably and soon. I think it would aid blacks as we seek to gain political equity.

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).

81 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)

PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro American

A-5. JULY 6, 1974

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.

Montrose School

Dear AFRO:

If you are person who does not enjoy reading the truth, then don't continue reading this article, because I am going to reveal some of the most astounding information that has ever been published concerning the Montrose School.

Without any hesitation, I am of the opinion that the following information can be related in other juvenile institutions.

This morning, a 13½ year old girl, a client of mine in vocational evaluation, exclaimed that she wanted to continue her high school education. The previous week she inferred, during an interview, that she did not like school and did not wish to continue

In questioning her about her change of attitude she told me that when she came into the evaluation program she felt she could not do anything; but that vocational evaluation had proven to her that she could do many things; therefore, she said, "I want to finish high school."

Another cleint smiled when I read her evaluation to her which stated that she displayed a beautiful attitude and personality. She replied, "You are the first to say that about me."

According to the public school report, another client was most difficult to manage, but Montrose discovered some of her vocational interests and placed her in her first known successful vocational experience.

She has lasted on the job for some three months with the following ingredients injected; love, patience, understanding and concern.

Conferring with several other students before their release, I discovered that they had mixed emotions about leaving the institution, because Montrose, as bad as they proclaimed it to be at times, gave them opportunities they may otherwise never have had.

Sitting in a review before Christmas, a particular student stated how terrible Montrose was and how if she did not get released she was going a.w.o.l.

A few weeks later, the same student, who had just finished vocational training at Goodwill Industries, told us how foolish she had been in thinking she knew what was best, and thanked us for not letting her have her own way.

The social workers, cottage supervisors and fellow teachers could, if ever requested to do so, relate many more successful stories.

But, you may ask, if you are telling the truth, why all the bad publicity about Montrose as written in the various newspapers.

Every person who visits Montrose will see good or evil, depending upon how narrow or how broad that person's ability is to make judgments.

You see, there are those students who do not remain at Montrose long enough to be successful, or those who have built up so much animosity that one could encounter difficulty in writing a success story about them.

Now, let me apprise you of this: — I have never seen so much love displayed in one location as is exhibited at Montrose. I admit I have not been everywhere, but I have worked in varied situations.

A reasonable estimate would be that 99 per cent of the staff working with the students at Montrose could not survive without love for their co-workers and for the children. When a teacher jeopardizes his own safety to intervene a fight, surely he only does it out of love.

Don't feel sorry for us at Montrose. Pray for those who evaluate this institution, as well as other institutions, who have such closed minds that they are unable to identify the good, hear only the bad and criticize everyone associated.

Do you realize how much love you have shared if you have read this article? You are beautiful.

ERNEST RICE
(Westminster, Md.)

Schaefer fails

Dear AFRO:

I question the sincerity of Mayor Schaefer's telegram to the bereaved Martin Luther King family in light of his failure to honor a resolution passed by the '74 Legislature.

This resolution, concerned the renaming of the Jones Falls Expressway to the Martin Luther King Jr. Expressway and was directed to the Mayor on May 1, 1974, by 24 co-sponsors from Baltimore City and its author, Delegate Dixon.

DEL. ISAIAH DIXON
(D-Baltimore City)

Tell 4 people

Dear AFRO:

It is provable by mathematical projection that if each follower of Jesus would tell four people to accept Christ in their hearts and lives, and the four in turn would each tell four more people etc. etc., the three billion people in the world might be one with Christ in thirty days! Think about it. Let's begin today

ELISSA WARD JOHNSON

Not guilty

Dear AFRO:

On May 31, Mr. Irvin Conway of the Model Cities Agency spoke to the students of Western High School at the farewell assembly for the Class of 1974.

His talk has been categorized in many circles as "racist." Mr. Conway's remarks were unprepared and inappropriate. As he tried to "put a speech together" he made some statements which were offensive to all members of the audience.

I am proud of the way our students and Mrs. Irma Roy, assistant principal, handled the situation.

Mr. Conway is guilty of not being prepared to deliver a talk. He is guilty of poor taste and poor judgment.

He is guilty of not using the opportunity to speak to 1,700 students and faculty as a means of developing better understanding of ourselves and our relationship to others. He is not guilty of being a "racist."

As a point of clarification, the speaker at our assembly was not Frank Conaway, a member of the House of Delegates from the 4th District. I regret any inconveniences caused Mr. Frank Conaway by the similarity between his name and the name of the speaker.

ANGELO J. FORTUNATO
(Principal)

Another King

A gain an ever lurking force
L eft death along its treacherous course
B efore the eyes of a stunned congregation
E rupted a violence that shocked the nation
B everently intoning the Lord's Prayer
T he worshippers were unaware
A n unsuspected youthful man

W as about to execute an evil plan

K illing of the mother of Dr. M. L. King
I ncensed the world by this tragic thing
N o one posed a lesser threat than she
G iving to the end unselfishly

RICHARD E. WATKINS

Redd Foxx

Dear AFRO:

We have written Redd Fox on behalf of the entire staff and inmate population of the Baltimore City Jail that we, the Inmate Council extend our sincere appreciation for his presence and performance at the institution on Friday, June 21.

We all enjoyed the show and truly hope that the next time he is in Baltimore he will come and visit, even if he doesn't have the energy for another performance.

We are all aware of the multitude of concerns he has demonstrated in the past towards individuals who are behind bars, and it is only through persons such as he that the real plight of the inmate becomes known.

And, thank you, AFRO, for the nice news coverage!!

BALTIMORE CITY JAIL INMATE COUNCIL

(Editor's Note: This letter carried the signatures of Reavlin R. Johnson, president, Albert Little, vice president; and Douglas Scott Arey, secretary.)

Parental failure

Dear AFRO:

In my days when a school contacted a parent it meant something serious had happened. That was the extent of parent involvement — it pertained only to that parent and that parent's child.

A sense of respect existed, too, in that the school's principal and teacher spoke with an authority which the parent and child understood carried weight as to punishment, expulsion, etc.

But then a funny, (if it weren't tragic,) thing happened — the PTA was born! We may never know why, but we surely know the meddling begot muddling.

PTA's should be banned. Parents should be allowed in school only to attend classes to see what a terrible job they've done in failing their children at home. Home is where the damage is done.

It is idiotic to expect a teacher, in a few minutes, to correct the parent's failure to the child in its formative years.

To those parents who might be upset by this letter, permit me to ask: A mathematics teacher is supposed to teach mathematics — correct?

Then do not, by all that is fair and square, expect that teacher also to have to teach manners, respect, etc. — not only to the teacher but to other children, too — B. J. SMALL

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.

Down memory lane

The Duke was here

QUESTION: Didn't the late Duke Ellington and his band play the old Royal Theatre here in Baltimore and when?

J.F.

ANSWER: One AFRO clipping dated Oct. 3, 1936 headlines, 'Duke Ellington Band and Ivy Hit At Royal Theatre.'

The article, written by Ollie Stewart, then a Baltimore AFRO reporter, now the AFRO's foreign correspondent living in Paris, gave the following account: —

"In bringing Duke Ellington, his famous orchestra, Ivy Anderson, vocalist, and the Cotton Club revue to the Royal Theatre, the management is this week offering Baltimore one of the finest shows seen here in a long time.

"Duke opened at the Pennsylvania Ave., playhouse on Friday and will remain for an entire week. The revue with him is spirited and laugh-provoking. Johnny Vigal, back in town after some months, was remembered and applauded before he opened his mouth."

Well-Rounded Show

"The chorus 'goes to town' in two Ellington numbers; Tudie and Al, Apus Brooks and showboy, the Three Peppers and the Four Step Brothers all do their bits to produce a well-rounded show.

"The screen fare is a laughable motion picture version of the popular whodunit mystery, "Meet Nero Wolf," starring Edward Arnold with Lionel Stander providing comic relief.

"But it was Edward Kennedy (Duke) Ellington, master of piano keys, arranger, composer and conductor that the Royal patrons applauded so lustily at the opening perfomance.

Duke is Showman

"And in addition to the other accomplishments that make him so amazingly versatile, the Duke must be acknowledged a showman. He gives the cash customers what they want. His program, his compositions, his arrangements are so varied as to include something for everybody.

"The numbers, he plays at the Royal this week, mostly his own compositions, run the gamut from hot to sweet to weird — and back again down the scale.

"Everything about Ellington's organization is accentuated. His trumpets seem to clip notes and leave them suspended in the air, his trombones and saxophones, as in a number that lets you see a train go by if you close your eyes, are distinct and mellow — and to watch Sonny Greer preside over his drums is an experience.

Ivy Anderson Good

"Ivy Anderson. She will have been with Duke and his orchestra exactly six years on February 13. She's trim as a yacht, and as distinctive.

"They call her the "California Blackbird," and what she did with "Oh, Babe," one of Duke's newer numbers at the opening performance, was very satisfactory.

"Add it all up. The dancing is as clever as you'll find anywhere, the singing is invigorating and the music is provided by a master. It's a real show at the Royal." (Editor's Note: Duke Ellington died May 23, 1974, at the age of 75).

QUESTION:

I am an inmate in a New York State prison, but I am a resident of Baltimore. Two weeks ago, I was given a tentative parole release date of July 15. The reason that date is tentative is because the State of Maryland, Department of Parole and Probation, will not accept me for parole supervision.

The reason is that I have an outstanding probation warrant from 1972 and they want it cleared up.

The only way that this can be done is to allow me to be paroled there. If not, I will be home on Aug. 14 anyway, and if the warrant isn't taken care of, they will wait until I am settled, then come and lock me up again, because I will have to come back to Baltimore. It is my only home. Can you help me? C.J.

ANSWER:

Department of Parole and Probation spokesman Vernon Skuhr, told AFRO Line there is no record of an investigation on you.

He adds: "Our records do not indicate that we have formally refused to accept him for supervision. I suggest he contact the institutional authorities where he is incarcerated, asking them to send them a formal request for acceptance through the Interstate Compact and they will certainly conduct an investigation and let New York know whether or not they will accept him for supervision."

QUESTION — I own my own restaurant. I've hired my son to work for me this summer. Is it true that I don't have to pay social security taxes on his wages?

ANSWER — Internal Revenue says yes, if you employ your son or daughter and he or she is under 21, you do not have to pay social security taxes on his or her wages.

However, this exception does not apply if your business is a corporation or a partnership which contains a partner other than you or your wife.

QUESTION — Is it possible for me to reduce the amount of tax withheld from my pay?

MRS. L.

ANSWER — Yes. This is done by filing a new W-4 Form with your employer, claiming all the exemptions to which you are entitled. In addition, you may qualify to claim the special withholding allowance. For details, see your employer or call your local IRS office.

THE DUKE looked like this about the time he visited Baltimore's Royal Theatre. See AFRO-Line for details.

IVY — the 'California Blackbird,' was Miss Anderson's nickname at time of Baltimore appearance, says AFRO-Line.

If YOU ask Me — by bettye moss

A black mayor announces his candidacy

A Saturday ago was a big day for Washington, D.C.'s Mayor Walter E. Washington. He received an honorary Doctor of Law degree at the 106th Convocation at Howard University in the morning.

Shortly after 3 o'clock in the afternoon, he officially announced his candidacy for election to run as the nation's capital's first elected mayor, authorized under the new Home Rule Bill passed overwhelmingly by the voters.

Primary is Sept. 10.

This official announcement came before 500 enthusiastic supporters in the Prince Hall Masonic Temple at 10th and You Sts. This writer was there.

Referring to his new honors, he told the crowd, "I am happy about having been honored at Howard this morning, but I am not going to be relying on being a doctor. I am going to rely on being the mayor."

Digressing from his four-page prepared speech, he was eloquent as he warmed up his well-wishers.

Here are some Washingtonisms which brought plenty of applause:

"Don't ask me questions about housing. Help me find the solution. The problems we face today are one of working together to get solions. If you are going to cool it," he said, "you're going to have to get something done."

And this: —

"Washington is now a stable, happy city because of what has happened in my administration in the last 6 years. There is no room now for rancor or for the problems we have had in the past in some of our cities."

Referring to the fact that he has gained the reputation as a walking mayor in his earlier campaign, Mayor Washington said, "No one knows the city like I do. I walked this street as housing intern, as mayor, as citizen. Some people talk about running for mayor and haven't been able to find the streets.

"We can't move in groups, one conclave here and another there and one group, the great I am on an ego trip over there. We've got to make it together."

Referring to the fact that he had served as mayor for the past 6 years without independence or Home Rule, he asserted, "All this time I have been struggling with my hands tied, but I am dedicated to problems and I have dealt with them. Health and Welfare, Air and Water Pollution, and we have made progress in finding solutions.

"Now we need to cut the rhetoric because all that does is add one more air pollution problem and I don't need it."

He continued, "I intend to serve this city with no special interest. I know the streets and I will serve the city from Carrolsburg Place to Euclid St., from one end of our city, northwest, southeast, southwest, in search of a new day for all of us.

"I was doing it before as appointed mayor and I want to continue to do it as your elected mayor.

"My campaign will be open and fair, and on the issues with full exposure of expenses.

"I come to my candidacy after 30 years service, owing no special debts. I have a good and clean record and with all the mess in this nation, I am sure you would want me as your candidate for mayor."

The crowd broke out with "Happy Days Are Here Again." There was more extended applause.

Charles Duncan was announced as campaign treasurer.

This AFRO writer arrived at the hall just as the mayor drove up in his Chrysler Imperial, license playte number 1.

We greeted the mayor and his wife, Dr. Bennette Bullock Washington, as they started in the hall.

It was a happy day for this writer to see how far a former classmate at Howard University has come.

It makes you feel good to know it does happen, it can happen here in the U.S., right next door in Washington, D.C., and it can and might happen soon in Baltimore.

MRS. MAYOR — wife of D.C. mayor pictured with other supporters at campaign rally staged in front of huge picture of His Honor at left. (PHOTO by Moss)

Smile

A fourth-grade teacher received a telephone call one morning. The husky voice on the line said, "Will you please excuse Johnny from school today? He has a cold." The teacher asked, "Who is this?" The husky voice answered, "This is my father."

REGISTER to VOTE

1974 Election Dates to Remember

Deadline for Withdrawal of Candidacy and Party Primary Candidates—9 p.m. July 26.

Deadline for Verification of Petitions by Boards of Supervisors of Elections—9 p.m. Aug. 5.

Last Day to Register Before Primary Election, Aug. 12.

Deadline for Certification of Candidates to Local Boards (Sat.) Aug. 10.

Deadline for Receipt of Absentee Voting Applications for Primary Election, Sept. 3.

Deadline for Pre-Primary Financial Reports by Candidates and Political Committees—not later than noon Sept. 3.

PRIMARY ELECTION Sept. 10.

Reporting of Official Primary Election Results by Local Boards of Canvassers, Sept. 19.

Registration Books Remain Closed 10 days after Primary. Reopen for Registration and other Transactions Sept. 23.

Deadline for Withdrawal of Candidacy Before General Election. Candidates nominated by Petition or Winners of Party Primary—9 p.m. Sept. 30.

Deadline for Certification of Nominees to Local Boards (Saturday) Oct. 5.

Last Day to Register Before General Election Oct. 7.

WHERE AND HOW TO REGISTER: At the Supervisors of Elections, People's Court Building, Fayette and Gay Streets, Baltimore. Open daily, 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m., Monday through Fridays. You may also register by mail Forms are available at all branches of Enoch Pratt Library, all Baltimore City department stores; all secondary public schools and at the office of the League of Women Voters, 2318 N. Charles St. Also at the following 23 Community Action Agency Centers: 1131 Harford Ave.; 1517 N. Gay; 706 N. Gay; 1809 Ashland; 125 Calvin; 1500 E. Baltimore; 211 Broadway; 109 Albermarle; 1411 Gough; 1309 Bunsen Way; 2500 Woodbrook; 1816 W. North; 1125 N. Fulton; 1031 N. Calhoun; 758 Dolphin; 1619 Druid Hill; 310 N. Arlington; 740 W. Saratoga; 1401 Hollins; 2000 Wilkins; 788 Washington Blvd.; 2416 Annor Ct.; 807 Cherry Hill Rd.

SPECIAL NOTE: Register to vote mail envelopes are available at the AFRO office, 628 N. Eutaw St., in downtown Baltimore, and may be picked up during business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, Monday-Friday and until noon on Saturdays.