# OPINION

Baltimore Afro American

FOUNDED Aug. 13, 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1840-1922. Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO-AMERICAN Co. of Baltimore City Inc.

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 AUGUST 10, 1974

## It had to happen

Richard Milhous Nixon, the son of Quaker parents who specialized in constitutional history in college, is resigning as President of the United States to avoid impeachment.

Impeachment became a certainty last week when Nixon admitted he ordered the FBI to limit the scope of the Watergate burglary investigation.

This admission of guilt clearly supported one of the three articles of impeachment voted by the House Judiciary Committee.

Republicans and Democrats then joined forces in full strength against the President.

This native of California, who served in the U.S. Navy, who was a congressman, senator and then Vice President before becoming President, has faced one crisis after another during his long political career. Each time he fought back and won.

In the 1952 Presidential campaign, Nixon running as Eisenhower's Vice President, went on nationwide television and dramatically denied he had benefited illegally from private funds.

He used these same tactics during the past three years to deny he had any prior knowledge of the Watergate burglary — but his ego got in the way.

Nixon, who believes scholars would record him as the greatest President in U.S. history, installed in his oval office a tape recorder.

This modern electronic device made a tape of every conversation held in that office, revealing a President few Americans could respect as their Chief Executive.

History will now record that Nixon was a President who said such things as:

"For example — now the worse thing is to go to anything that has to do with the art — the art you know, they're Jews, they're left wings — in other words, stay away. Make a point." (June 23, 1972).

Or — when talking about firing a government employee:

"... And let him roll. So that ... as a warning to a few other people around this government, that we are to quit being a bunch of God-damn soft-headed managers .... We never demote anybody. We always promote the sons-of-bitches that kick us in the ass ..." (April 19, 1971).

Nixon had the experience, a good education, and a firm religious background. As a graduate of one of the country's leading law schools, he knew right from wrong as spelled out by the U.S. Constitution.

The impeachment of a President is a painful situation, a process which hurts not only the man impeached but a great country.

Richard Milhous Nixon realized because of his unconstitutional act, he could no longer exercise direction and control over these United States. Once he faced this issue, resignation or impeachment was inevitable.

He chose resignation, not to save millions of dollars which would have to be spent on holding a set of hearings; not to preserve his dignity; but to hold on to his pension and expense money.

Knowing Richard Nixon, this is the way it had to happen.

## Allen:-keep checking

In his job as Baltimore City State's Attorney, Milton B. Allen has an obligation to the voters to make sure that no candidate for any office appears unfavorably in any of his public records.

Mr. Allen would not be doing his job if he did not at least check criminal, civil and payroll records of top contenders for office.

His office should know whether a former assistant state's attorney, who seeks the higher post, came to work regularly, had a good rating from the state's attorney and appears to take his work seriously.

Mr. Allen's job is to prevent voters from electing someone who says his record is good, when those records say otherwise.

Corruption is on the rampage throughout the U.S. Prison doors continue to open to admit lawyers who held high offices. Many of these men could have had something in their past records which would have spared voters the costly expense of removing them from office.

As alert state's attorney, with just a little bit of checking, might have discovered these frailties.

When Milton Allen first ran for state's attorney, he had to prove himself more than "just good" to pick up some white support.

His opponent dug into his past, checked and rechecked on his performance, his private life and his potential for the future.

Under his administration, the state's attorney's office has changed for the better, but there are many more things to be done.

Baltimore needs an alert man like Milton Allen. Keep on checking, Mr. Allen.

## Labor and Gov. Mandel

Gov. Marvin Mandel has answered the policemen's union with some strong words, which say in effect he will support Police Commissioner Donald Pomerleau in his reprisals against police officers who participated in last month's illegal strike.

The policemen are learning one lesson that black people learned early in their history here in America. Simply stated, it means that as long as Mr. Charley doesn't get hurt, heads are turned the other way, but once the color line is crossed, look out.

This is not to say that the governor is not right in feeling that the strike was illegal, that to leave a large part of Baltimore City unprotected was criminal, that to endanger the lives of law-abiding citizens after taking an oath not to strike, does deserve some kind of discipline. But what kind?

The big question now to both Mandel and the Pomerleau is what is in the best interest of the community?

Continued reprisals will not reduce the increasing crime rate.

The more policemen fired or suspended will not keep homes safe from burglary, will not prevent looting and allow citizens to walk the streets safely. Gov. Mandel knows this.

There is no doubt that some discipline is needed but we question whether less severe measures might not accomplish the same results.

If a criminal in court can be granted leniency in extenuating circumstances, if plea bargaining is honored for the Nixon men, then Gov. Mandel should encourage Commissioner Pomerleau to lower his big stick, come down off his pedestal and do what is best not just for his department, but for the city of Baltimore.

## Is this advocacy?

The Health and Welfare Council of Central Maryland recently joined with the Northeast Community Organization to sue the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) for $600,000 in Emergency School Aid funds.

They lost when the court ruled that unless Baltimore city has an approved school desegregation plan the money would not be forthcoming from HEW.

The Health and Welfare Council was representing these agencies in the court suit:

1. The Health Training Research Systems, Inc.
2. YMCA Urban Action
3. YWCA of the Greater Baltimore Area
4. Direct Search for Talent-Opportunities
5. Girl Scouts of Central Maryland
6. Delta Sigma Theta Reach-Out
7. YMCA, Druid Hill When the HWC Board voted to join this suit, the vote was 13-1.

Were the agencies, when they originally filed for the funds, aware that Baltimore had to have an approved school desegregation plan before they could receive the money?

Was the suit brought on to behalf of these agencies to indicate that HEW, not the city, should be forced to by-pass Federal guidelines?

Just what did the Health, Welfare Council expect to accomplish?

Since four of those agencies represented by the Council serve a predominately black clientele, would it not have been more reasonable for them to sue the city and demand that Baltimore meet the federal guidelines for a school desegregation plan rather than ask that this step be by-passed?

What Baltimore needs now is an acceptable desegregation proposal. The Department of Health, Education and Welfare has said that unless it has one, Federal funds will be held up.

Baltimore citizens and our own organizations must understand this situation, and get to work or our children will suffer for their bungling.

AUGUST 13 IS AFRO'S BIRTHDAY

# We're entering our 83rd year of publication

On Aug. 13, 1974-next Tuesday, the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper has a birthday! — it's 82nd.

As we embark on our 83rd year of continuous publication, we pause to recall how we were born:

John Henry Murphy Sr., in the Civil War had seen service with General Grant, in the wilderness and was with General Sherman when he captured the Rebel Army of General Joe Johnson. His was the 30th Regiment U.S. Colored Maryland Volunteers.

He entered a slave and came out a freed man with a blue uniform of his country as a guarantee of freedom and a sergeant's stripe on his arm to prove that there is promotion for those who can earn it.

Being a war veteran he was offered the job in the Postal service, but immediately discharged when the Democratic President Cleveland took office.

Then he became a porter, a janitor, and a whitewasher before he landed a job in a print shop.

On the side, as Superintendent of St. John AME Church Sunday School, he wanted to unite the State Sunday Schools into a convention on the order of the Epworth League and the Christian Endeavor.

He purchased type fonts and a press and put them in his cellar where he printed the small paper he called the Sunday School Helper.

Sergeant Murphy was over 50 years of age when an opportunity presented itself to purchase his own newspaper.

Two other men figured in the early days of the AFRO The Rev. William M. Alexander, pastor of Sharon Baptist Church in Baltimore owned a provision store and organized on August 13, 1892 a four-page sheet which he called the AFRO AMERICAN to advertise his church and community enterprises.

The Rev. George F. Bragg, pastor of Saint James Episcopal Church printed a church and community organ which he called the Ledger.

It was the Rev. Mr. Alexander who sold the AFRO-AMERICAN to Mr. Murphy who had borrowed $200 from his thrifty wife to purchase it at an auction.

In 1907, the Rev. Mr. Bragg merged the Ledger with the AFRO which for a time was known as the AFRO-AMERICAN Ledger, with Mr. Murphy as publisher and the Rev. Mr. Bragg as editorial writer.

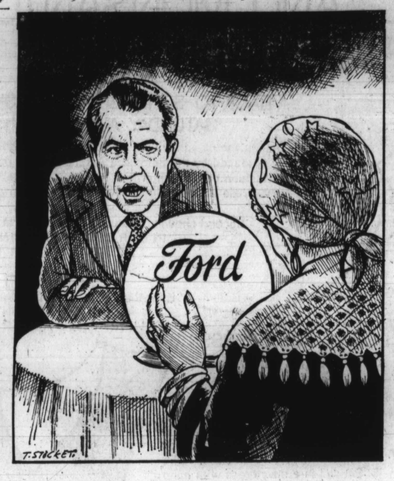
It was about this time that Mr. Murphy abandoned his whitewash brush and turned all of his attention for the next 25 years to printing his newspaper. At his death in 1922, he left a successful property to his family.

Next week when the Baltimore AFRO begins its 83rd year, we will be sharing the happy occasion with readers who have birthdays this month and in particular with those born 82 years ago. We want to hear from them.

We want to say 'happy birthday' to faithful readers who have contributed to our columns, shared their ideas and criticisms, sought our help in expressing their hopes, aspirations and concerns.

It is they who have given us the encouragement to continue to be the independent, black voice, we are, with no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved, as outlined in the founder's credo printed on this page each edition.

## There's a Ford in your future




## Washington — by Parren J. Mitchell

### Testing drugs on prisoners

(The Honorable Mr. Mitchell represents 7th District-Maryland in the U.S. House of Representatives)

Ever since I introduced a bill prohibiting federal prisons from making their inmates available for biomedical and behavioral experimentation and discouraging state and local institutions from doing so, I have received many phone calls asking if I am not guilty of "overkill" by not exempting those experiments for which prisoners "freely volunteer."

I understand the concern of my colleagues on this point and, as I am eager for them to understand what I feel is the reality of the prison situation and eager as well for their cosponsorship of this bill, I entered into the Congressional Record the following article which appeared in the Tuesday, July 23, 1974 edition of the Boston Globe.

The author is Michael Kenney.

The article follows:

The protests at Norfolk prison colony that inmate's medical needs are being neglected are an ironic commentary on the long-festering issue of experimental drug research in prisons.

Norfolk is supposed to have superior medical facilities and staff as a fringe benefit from the heavy program of drug research carried on there by a private outfit, Medical and Technical Research Associates of Needham.

The research firm has prided itself on "public service contributions" to Norfolk, which include such things as supplying all the institution's aspirin needs, providing the services of two doctors independently of the research program, and purchasing some medical equipment.

In turn for that and for payment of $40 to $80 per experiment to inmates who volunteer as research subjects, the firm operates a continual testing program for new products and formulas being developed by the large drug companies.

It is not a very happy situation.

There is a growing concern that a prisoner, simply because he is a prisoner, cannot freely volunteer himself for such things as drug experimentation, and that any idea of "informed consent" within the surroundings of prison walls is at best a contradiction in terms.

New Correction Department guide lines for drug research apparently will prevent testing of "compounds not previously subjected to human trial" and provide for an independent review process; but a move to also ban the testing of the very suspect behavior-modification drugs has been sidetracked in the Massachusetts Senate.

The legislation, sponsored by the Massachusetts Black Caucus, passed the House but was tabled in the Senate earlier this month by Minority Leader John F. Parker (R-Hamilton).

"If evidence came to me that someone was being harmed," Parker said, "I'd be the first person to stop the testing." The research by his staff, Parker said, indicated "no one's been harmed, there's never been a lawsuit. It's strictly voluntary."

But State Rep. Mel King (D-South End) said he asked Parker after the bill was tabled: "Would you test these drugs on yourself or let your family be the guinea pigs?"

The main concern of the bill's supporters is ending once and for all the technological fantasy that some drug or another can be pulled off the shelf and used to change someone's behavior: the "Clockwork Orange" approach.

Although efforts to stop the testing of behavior-modifying drugs have been stalled along with the effort to put into the General Statutes the departmental ban on the testing of untried drugs on prisoners—the Legislature has already acted decisively on a related issue by imposing a near-absolute ban on research involving human fetuses.

## A little about a lot — by Madeline W. Murphy

### Anti-racism party line in high gear

In perusing the local morning paper, one sees the mangling and distortion of news, the use of convoluted arguments on editorial pages that fly in the face of factual reporting in other sections.

A case in point is an article written in mid-July by E. B. Furgurson entitled "When 'Racism' Isn't."

After a long general tirade about the tyranny of those blacks who call anything racist that goes against what they want to do, he comes to the point of his irritation: street vendors who have taken over the sidewalks of Georgetown.

They sell, according to Mr. F., "cheap junk at high prices, pay no sales taxes and look scruffy." He adds, "they have organized in retaliation and block traffic further to distribute hand-outs charging that merchants are guilty of racism," merchants, who according to him "pay taxes on every quarter they take in."

To bolster his point on racism — a cheap shot — (although he avers that black vendors are in the minority) he throws in the two convicts who held seven hostages in the federal court house, who complained of racism in the jail; and the infamous DeFunis case, that was brought before the Supreme Court by a young Jewish student who scored high on admission tests yet was bumped from a Law university in Washington state by black applicants who scored lower.

He closes his diatribe with a plea that "public dialogue in our country should be on a higher level than that, especially as regards 'racism' for there is enough of it still around us to try to pinpoint and erase it ...."

(Note how the party-line is going into high gear to stop calling a spade a spade, no pun intended!)

Of course he avoids the fact that the end results he mentions are due to white racism, as well as classism, since street vendors, white or black, are still the end products of a society that deliberately ignores or misfits our youth.

Because our education system provides them with no skills, there is no place for them, yet they must legally find food, clothing and shelter.

Jails are filled not only with black felons but black political prisoners, and the recent D.C. two mentioned by him, had rioted a year ago because of the horrible conditions in the jail; were promised better conditions; and when they surrendered, were given longer sentences.

The jail remained horrible.

Finally, as in all Supreme Court minority decisions, that become law through the test of time, Justice William Douglas gave a perfect solution to end racism in the DeFunis case, when he implied that if the school were to recast its admissions approach, for instance, by adding points to the law board score, of any applicants who might be considered victims of the test's cultural bias, it could avoid the entire constitutional discrimination problem.

This simple application of compensatory relief pinpoints and also erases the root causes of white racism — the need to prove superiority and justify it.

As usual, the fault in a racist society rests at the doorstep of self-styled liberals, who bleat about their lack of prejudice, yet prescribe the way our right to equality can be obtained.

Thus, the old truism of black militants of the 60's remains: "Scratch a liberal and you get a racist every time," and the campaign to obscure the problem, by dropping all mention of it, escalates.

## Now and then — by G. James Fleming

### Judges, blacks and Gov. Mandel

It was good and necessary to be reminded in last week's AFRO of the differential and disparity in the number of black judges, compared to the total number of black citizens in Baltimore City and the state of Maryland.

Only blacks and women are continually discriminated against so woefully in the appointments to higher public offices, in this case the judiciary.

In no instance, where persons of Italian, Irish, Jewish, Polish or Catholic background make up a significant segment of the population, or the electorate, are they thus ignored, as are we black citizens.

We compose about 18 per cent of the state's population and about 54 per cent of Baltimore City's—but there is nowhere such a percentage distribution of judges.

Even on the lowest level of district court judges in the city, of a total of 22 judges, there have never been more than four black judges.

At the present time, there are three, with one vacancy.

The entire racist-looking roster is worth repeating:

MARYLAND (STATE) COURT OF APPEALS
7 Authorized by law
6 Whites sitting
0 Blacks
1 Vacancy

COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS (STATE)
12 Authorized by law
10 Whites sitting
0 Blacks
2 Vacancies

SUPREME BENCH, BALTIMORE CITY
21 Authorized by law
16 Whites sitting
4 Blacks
1 Vacancy

DISTRICT COURT, BALTIMORE CITY
22 Authorized by law
18 Whites sitting
3 Blacks
1 Vacancy

It is this kind of racial discrimination, this kind of "passing over," of ignoring, which causes blacks to be continually protesting, continually, dissatisfied, continually distrustful of the system."

This column rejoices that Maryland now has its first Chief Executive of Jewish background, Marvin Mandel.

Is it asking too much of Governor Mandel THAT HE ADOPT the pattern usually followed in enlightening U.S. politics—to reward and recognize the different groups that make up the state in some accordance to their numbers in the population and-or their involvement in politics?

In no jurisdiction where the Irish, for example, were a majority in the population, or a significant part, would any political leader or party dare to think of ignoring them altogether, or of recognizing them with only the crumbs from the overlord's table.

It may well be that Governor Mandel is expliciting the fact that "Those Negroes have no other place to go"—no other party or candidate to turn to. So, Machiavelli-like, the governor-candidate feels he can do as he pleases.

It is for this reason that the years ahead must see, in Maryland, the development of a vigorous second party, on all levels, and as vigorous factions within each party—so that no one party or one machine can be so cocksure of winning, either in primary or in general election.

No candidate for governor should be as cocksure of victory as Governor Mandel.

CITYWIDE EDITION — The editors of the AFRO did another good service when they published their list of black citywide candidates who should be nominated for ten citywide offices, mostly in the courts—nominated and subsequently elected.

What we have said earlier, suggesting that political offices should reflect the population, applies here.

In addition, sad but true, the clientele before the courts, in the prisons, and the clientele by the sheriff's office, are predominantly black.

The time is long past when the several clerks of courts (really, the court administrators), and the sheriffs, should be offices NOT OPEN TO BLACKS.

The AFRO's list (July 27 issue) should be clipped, be referred to often, and used when next we vote: Primary Election, September 10, 1974.

Nothing here (or in the AFRO's list) means a "black takeover" of Baltimore City, as some white "bosses" are publicizing it. It barely means that black citizens want to do for themselves what they have done, down the years, for the Currans, the Pollacks, the Hagues, the Crumps, and hundreds of other political bosses.

In addition, all blacks want a bigger slice of the political pie.

## Smile

Some people know a lot more when you try to tell them something than when you ask them something.

## AFRO Credo

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God and in the next 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)

## It's not a man's world — by Bernice S. White

# Household workers should be getting increase NOW

The nation's new minimum wage law which became effective May 1, increases the hourly minimum for the first time for nearly 7.4 million working women and men.

Included are 1.5 million domestic workers who will be legally guaranteed the federal minimum wage. And most domestic workers are women.

Also included are farm workers.

Specifically, the new rate applies to domestic workers who receive at least $50 per calendar quarter from one employer or who work a total of more than eight hours for one or more employers.

For example, if you are employed as a household worker of almost any kind, cook, cleaning person, gardener, nurse and you are being paid less than $1.90 an hour; or if you are not being paid time and a half for hours you work over 40 hours a week, you have grounds to demand an immediate raise—plus back pay to May 1, when the minimum wage went into effect.

Under the law the federal minimum wage will rise again January 1, 1975, to $2 an hour; again on January 1, 1976 to $2.20 an hour; and $2.30 an hour on January 1, 1977.

Coverage of the law, under the new Fair Labor Standards Act amendments, also has been extended to most non-supervisory state and local government employees, and civilian employees of the Federal Government.

Also, some employees of previously excluded small retail and service establishments, and private household workers.

Extension of the act's coverage automatically brings many additional women under the Federal Equal Pay Act, which requires that men and women doing substantially equal work receive the same pay.

The act also amends the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), making it applicable to employers of 20 or more employees (formerly 25 or more), and extending coverage to employees of federal, state and local government and interstate agencies.

The ADEA prohibits arbitrary discrimination in the employment of persons 40 to 65 years old.

The Wage and Hour Division of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment Standards Administration enforces the Fair Labor Standards Act.

For more information on wages, overtime provisions, etc., contact the Baltimore city office of the Wage and Hour Division, Fallon Federal Building, telephone 962-2265.

Next: The Status of the Domestic Worker

## 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.

SPECIAL NOTE: You may also report errors in news stories, request corrections, complain or inquire about AFRO news stories and policies by contacting AFRO Line by phone or letter. Weekdays call 728-8200. Extensions 64 or 50, between hours of 9:30 and 4 p.m. and talk in person to AFRO Line service. Your report will get prompt attention by top management or the AFRO news department.

Or, write, AFRO Line, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203 or drop in to see AFRO Line at 628 N. Eutaw St.

### Slow response from ambulance

QUESTION: A year or so ago we had a severe problem of not getting any police when we called. They just refused to come.

Yesterday, my neighbors had a relative from out-of-town who became ill.

They called the emergency number for an ambulance (396-1111). After a half hour, no ambulance, and they called back, no ambulance.

They called the police department where a spokesman said there was nothing they could do.

They called the ambulance again and nobody came.

It was one hour and a half or more before an ambulance or a policeman came. By this time the visitor was dead.

We have this problem in the area of Barrington Rd. and Granada. We had so many articles in the AFRO dealing with this problem before, trying to get adequate police protection and get police to respond to the calls in the community.

The problem is that we can actually get no response from the services like the ambulance, fire department and police. Absolutely nothing.

I called the police after it happened, and I wanted to speak to the person in charge. They tried to give me the run-around.

I must have talked with 5 lieutenants and they just kept saying it was nothing they can do.

I told them if there's nothing you can do why do you give this emergency number out to people?

People look to the fire department and the police department for help and the worst part about it is where the ambulance had to come from was three blocks away. They just refused to come. It took them from two hours to demand an immediate raise—plus back pay to May 1, when the minimum wage went into effect.

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(Reprinted from the Louisville Courier-Journal)

## If YOU ask ME — by Bettye Moss

Talmadge Hill, the longtime Morgan State coach, was stricken while he and his wife were on a holiday cruise. He was taken off the ship in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

His wife reports he is feeling better — doctors think he might have contracted pneumonia.

Get well cards to Mrs. George C. Grantt Sr. (Marguerite). She was in Sinai Hospital, but is at her Whittier Ave. home, doing nicely.

Mrs. Betty Evans (she's Jean Wilson's mom), is doing well also. She's out of the hospital and able to get around with a walker.

More sick list: Mrs. Lavada Hobson is in Memphis with her mother, Mrs. Ida McLinn, who is hospitalized.

Earl Bundara, the teacher who was in North Arundel General, is doing nicely at home — Beechwood Park Rd., in Pasadena, Md.

Also improving at home is Dr. William V. Lockwood, the Community College vice president.

Mrs. Schofield Lawson (Elsie) is recuperating at her Copley Rd. home. She had surgery at Sinai. Many know her as the public school library specialist.

Miss Olive Caulk, the housing executive, is doing nicely after surgery. Hellos to her at 1501 N. Bentalou St.

Wedding bells ring this Saturday at 11 a.m. at St. Peter Claver Church for Miss Miriam Brown and Argin McKay Hutchins Jr.

She's daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Brown and he's son of Mr. and Mrs. Argin McKay Hutchins, Jr. Reception follows at Cross Keys.

Vacations can be fun and full of surprises too. At least that's what happened for Mrs. Carrie Dorsey Jackson, who is on that Atlanta tour with members of Union Baptist Church's Gertrude Neal Circle.

She writes: —

"It is almost unbelievable that my husband (Algernon Jackson), and daughter (Betty Washington), would think ahead — in terms of my birthday and plan a little activity that became an event of the hotel where we stay — the Atlantan.

With the manager — secretly — they baited me with a nice room in which to play a quiet game of pinochle. When the door was opened — a huge blackboard had been scrawled across it — "Happy Birthday Carrie."

"And do you know — about 50 of the Baltimoreans on tour came with gifts, cards, money, etc., etc. It was truly a beautiful Sunday night.

"To add to our pleasures, we dined Monday and Tuesday with cousins-in-law of the Gant and Lewis families here in Atlanta; met and renewed acquaintances with Mr. Jackson (Graham), known as the pianist and organist of five Presidents (had met him in Baltimore ages ago through Ulysses and Rivers Chambers.)"

An obituary story could not begin to tell about the contributions many senior citizens have made to our community.

The thought occurs because of the deaths this week of two of them we knew and admired. Mrs. J. Timothy Boddie (Emery), widow of the beloved pastor of New Shiloh Baptist Church and in her own right a gracious lady and an ardent church and civic worker and devoted mother.

Mrs. Mary E., Hawkins, who helped reorganize and vitalize the Baltimore NAACP in 1935, played a key role as worker, fund-raiser and right-hand to another NAACP stalwart, Dr. Lillie M. Jackson.

Both ladies had something else in common — they were regular AFRO readers who offered constructive criticism.

Cuff note: In this column 15 years ago (Nov. 1959), this writer wrote an article entitled, 'Special thanks to Mary E.'

Excerpts:

"It couldn't happen to a nicer lady — Mrs. Mary E. Hawkins, that is. She is one of several citizens who will be honored on Sunday at the YWCA when the St. Anne's Spiritual Temple marks its 22nd anniversary. Mayor Grady will be guest speaker.

"Mrs. Hawkins is one of those energetic people a community just can not do without. She is the kind of person who is always present at civic meetings, Johnny-on-the-spot in any crisis; willing to lend a helping hand.

"She is a devoted worker in her church — Union Memorial Methodist — (she belonged years ago when the church was called Whatcoat Methodist); and she is active in numerous denominational organizations — for example, she is a charter member of the Women's Society of Christian Service of the Washington Conference; has been lay delegate to the various church conferences for several years.

"Also, she's active in and has served as an officer of the church's commission on missions, laymen's association, Golden Cross Society, N. M. Carroll Aged Home; and for three years was treasurer of the State Council of Church Women.

"And, Mrs. Hawkins is a tireless worker in the Baltimore branch of the NAACP, which she has served faithfully since the branch was reorganized here in 1935. She is a working vice president who is there always, at the right hand of Mrs. Lillie Jackson, branch president.

"For several years, she has taken the leadership in the NAACP baby contest, one of the organization's most successful money-raising ventures.

"And, she has found time to serve the Red Cross as a volunteer worker (8 years), the March of Dimes and several other community groups.

"Besides all this, she is a registered nurse (graduate of Mercy-Douglass Hospital in Philly); and a cosmetologist, who conducts her own beauty shop at her Gilmor St. home. For 17 years, she has been an examiner with the State Board of Beauty Culture.

"She also is active in the Alpha Pi Omega beauticians' sorority. Whew!!

How does she do all this? How does a woman who is just 5-feet-2, weighing a little under 115-pounds, get the energy, I asked her.

She says: "They just call on me, and I just go on and do it. I always try to help somebody ..."

Perhaps that's the answer to what makes successful women, they think of others, forget themselves and love doing it.

Mrs. Hawkins comes by her civic awareness naturally. She is the daughter of a Methodist minister — her father, the late Rev. Marcus Cicero Laughlin, pastored in their native Greensboro, N.C. Her mother was the former Miss Cecelia White. Her stepmother, Mrs. Duella White is still residing in Greensboro.

"At this Thanksgiving time, the Hawkins family can give special thanks for their devoted mother.

"And, Baltimore should give special thanks too — Mary E. Hawkins is that reare individual among us who never says no when she is asked to help a worthy community endeavor — a woman who gives devoted and loving service because she lives the golden rule and enjoys helping other people."

## Another view on scholarship reform

Dear AFRO: You have invited me to respond to a letter which appeared in AFRO-Line (July 27, 1974 — entitled, 'Scholarship reform means different things to different folks').

The perception of the writer of that letter crediting black Senators with having the interest of black students at heart is remarkably refreshing.

Once you are successful in being elected to public office your motives are too often suspect and target of unfair accusations.

Yes, your three black Senators voted against the proposed scholarship aid reform bill because they saw in it a potential means of denying scholarships to deserving black students.

After two centuries of dependence on the good will of white-controlled boards and governments to help blacks, we, your elected officials, are no longer willing to place the fate of black students in the hands of a faceless predominately white bureaucracy without firm and airtight guarantees that black students will be considered on the basis of standards which are meaningful to blacks!

The proposed scholarship reform bill would have taken all state scholarship monies — Senatorial, General, House of Delegates, Student Loan, and Tuition Waiver programs, and lumped them together.

The $5 million, with no new funds added, would then be redistributed one half equally to all districts and the other 50 per cent based on "need."

But the bill does not say what "need" is, "need" is to be defined by an eleven-man board and administered by two existing agencies which, I suppose are to be merged, although this was not defined.

One of these agencies, the Loan Board, in the ten years it has been in existence, has shown little sensitivity to blacks.

Few black students have received student loans. Yet the members of this same agency will administer the merged scholarship program. Do you wonder that I have no faith in this agency in terms of what it will do for blacks?

A statewide board, fairly constituted, will not have a majority of blacks. Even if blacks are given a fair proportion of representation on this board, the representation will be voted down at every point.

Past history says not only will this board have a majority of whites, but it will also be a majority of whites who are not sensitive to the needs of Baltimore City youth, and who are diabolically opposed to the best interests of the people living in the City.

The track record of the other political subdivisions hasn't been that darned good for me to trust that they will do the best thing for blacks.

Why would rich, wealthy Montgomery County so favor this new scholarship proposal if it hurts them and helps black kids from Balti.. re City?

The Lee-Maurer proposal to equalize state funding for education, developed and pushed by Montgomery County, did not favor Baltimore City.

It favors Montgomery County to the point where one has to question whether it can really be called equalizing.

If the Montgomery County representatives are for this program 100 per cent, then why should I, a black representing the blacks of Baltimore City accept it on face value without reservation?

As an educator and former principal of an inner city high school, I have worked too long and hard seeking out financial aid for black students to do anything at this point in time which might work to the detriment of blacks in this regard.

I could go on listing reservations I have.

How often would this board meet? Who will make final decisions?

What criteria will be used in the selection process?

What access will a black parent of Baltimore City have in case his child is denied a scholarship?

To whom does a black citizen appeal?

What mechanism is set up to monitor activities of this Board and its bureaucratic staff?

Is there any way for the average citizen to find out whether Baltimore is getting cheated or being justly treated?

Before black citizens accept a white trojan horse, we had better seek definitive answers to these questions.

I have asked them. I raised them on the floor of the Committee, I raised them on the floor of the Senate, and I raised them in a release to the AFRO-AMERICAN.

No one at this point has offered specific answers.

Therefore, using my best judgement, I voted against the bill and shall continue to vote against it, until answers are forthcoming.

I believe it is my duty as a representative of a primarily black constituency to do so.

CLARENCE W. BLOUNT

(Editor's note: Mr. Blount is state senator from Baltimore City's 41st Legislative District (formerly 5th). As explained in AFRO-Line last week, his vote and that of State Senators Clarence Mitchell and Robert Dalton were the deciding ones which defeated the Mandel bill in the last Legislature. Last week, Senators Dalton and Mitchell explained why their votes were in the best interests of black students.)

### Orchids for us

Dear AFRO:

Your interest in the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of St. James showed clearly in what you did for us in the AFRO.

The historic sketches were of great worth and beautifully lined up.

You will be pleased to know that I have received clippings from many of my colleagues in other cities, citing the interest that it built up in them, demonstrating also that the AFRO has wide readership.

The rector, wardens and vestry of St. James wish to thank the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers for such support and publicity.

DONALD O. WILSON

(Editor's Note: The Rev. Mr. Wilson is rector of St. James Church, Lafayette and Arlington Aves., in northwest Baltimore.)

# PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro American

A-5. AUGUST 10, 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.

### We had a little riot

Dear AFRO:

As if we didn't have enough, we now are struggling to define the recent, whatever it was during the police strike. The simple 3- and 4-letter words burn, kill, loot, rob, etc. no longer satisfy the needs of insurance companies in evaluating claims of vandalized merchants.

Are we playing a numbers game?

How many burnings, killings, lootings, robberies, etc. are required for it to "qualify" as a riot?

I'm reminded of the young man who was overwhelmed by the very generous offer made to him, (including a partnership in the business!), by the girl's father.

"Sir," he said, "your daughter is very attractive and there must be dozens of eligible men who would give anything to be married to her. Why are you showering me with so many gifts?"

"Son," replied the father, "there's nothing wrong, believe me. She's just a little pregnant."

I suppose the companies feel Baltimore didn't have enough burnings and lootings. But one doesn't know what is enough, until it is known what is more than enough.

Until we come up with the correct formula, let's say we had a little riot. This will give Baltimore a better-looking profit and loss statement.

We'll still have an ugly balance sheet, but let's not be greedy and hasty.

Given enough time everything will be destroyed and we'll start all over. Maybe things will be better the second time around. — B. J. SMALL

### All should see 'Cope'

Dear AFRO:

I have never been more well pleased with a musical production than I was with the production, "Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope."

This musical, which isn't being seen by the white crowds that normally attend the Mechanic, nevertheless, needs to be seen by all.

By the term "all" I am not only urging that different races view the production, but I am also urging that the affluent, the poor, the elderly and the youth see it. Essentially, everyone.

Whites should see the production primarily for educational reasons. Far beyond just the idea of the black experience does this production lend itself. "Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope" reaches, and eloquently so, out into the black culture.

Americans, as a whole, are truly uneducated concerning the black American culture, which just happens to be a very important aspect of American history.

Consequently, this type of education can and will lend itself to bringing the races somewhat closer together.

Only through education can liberty, justice and peace become a reality instead of just a hope.

During this entire outstanding production I was really touched by everything, but especially the song, "It takes a whole lot of human feeling to be a human being."

"This production brought out an enormous amount of "human feeling" by just relating to the black culture in a way that no other production has. This production, did, indeed, the theme was superb, and the production was just "outa sight."

I urge everyone, and especially whites, to see this production for the production will bring out "a whole lot of human feeling" in you too.

MARVIN L. CHEATHAM SR.

(Editor's Note:; 'Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope' is at the Mechanic through Aug. 31.)

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)

## REGISTER to VOTE

1974 Election

Only 3 Days Left to Register for PRIMARY

AUGUST 12 — LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR PRIMARY ELECTIONS

September 3 — Deadline for Receipt of Absentee Voting Applications for Primary Election

SEPTEMBER 10 — PRIMARY ELECTION

NOTE: If you're 17 and will be 18 by Nov. 2, YOU should register because you may vote in the Primary Election on Sept. 10. All 18-year-olds may also vote. 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., Mondays through Fridays. Office open until 9 p.m. Aug. 12.

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 23 Community Action Agency Centers.

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., Saturdays until noon.