"I am a man of peace. God knows how I love peace. But I hope I shall never be such a coward as to mistake oppression for peace." Kossuth — Hungarian Freedom Fighter

OPINION

Baltimore Afro American

FOUNDED Aug. 13, 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1849-1922. 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)

The time for sharing

In addition to asking readers to send contributions so that she may buy food and clothing for needy families, the AFRO's Mrs. Santa encourages them to share with their less fortunate neighbors by adopting deserving families on her list.

To date, the response has been encouraging, but we are particularly impressed by the ream of letters which has crossed our desk this week. They indicate the true Christmas spirit is very much in evidence.

Typical is one signed by an 18-year Whitelock Street mother on behalf of herself and 17-month-old son. In sending along her gift of $2 she explains:

"We receive Social Service checks, which are not much, but we make do. We are not writing for a basket, food, clothing or toys, but rather to contribute to someone less fortunate than we are."

The writer adds:

"Our contribution may not be much, but we send it from the bottom of our hearts. I hope when my son grows up to become a young man he will understand it is better to give, no matter how small, than always being on the receiving end. It's not what you get out of life that counts, it's how you live it."

Another reader who uses the initials K. L. G. encloses a $50 money order, with this notation:

"Helping to feed or clothe some needy brothers or sisters means everything. Please accept my gift in love."

A Druid Hill Avenue resident who sends $2 suggests, "This is something we should do all the year round to help someone who needs. I will send a dollar or more to help some needy person as long as I can."

We hope other AFRO readers will be encouraged to follow the example of these generous contributors.

We agree with the reader who suggests that "a time for sharing is not only at Christmas but all year long."

Special note: AFRO's Mrs. Santa's case load is four times what it was this time last year.

Send tax deductible contributions to AFRO Charities, Inc., P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203.

Sharing with others will make your Christmas happy.

...rst in 18 years

The School Board's appointment of Earl L. Hagan as principal of prestigious Douglass High School breaks a precedent.

Not since 1956, when Ralph W. Reckling Sr., retired as principal, has a man been in charge of the northwest Baltimore high school.

Because prior to 1954 it was the only high school black youngsters were able to attend, Douglass has produced many of this city's and nation's pioneers.

Whether the School Board decision to ...k female applicants for this post is wise remains to be seen.

Certainly Mr. Hagan's credentials indicate he is of the caliber of those who have provided outstanding administrative skill at Douglass.

Our memory goes back to the days of James H. N. Waring Sr., who became principal of what was then the Colored Polytechnic School in 1902, later the Colored High School, and served until 1910.

There followed, Dr. Mason Hawkins, 1910-1934; Harry T. Pratt, 1934-1945; Mr. Reckling, 1945-1956; Mrs. Lillian Parrott Murphy, 1956-1969; Mrs. Edna Over Campbell, 1969-1973; and Mrs. Elizabeth Adams, 1973-1974.

These are big shoes to fill. In reacting to his appointment, Mr. Hagan sees it as a real challenge and the culmination of a lifetime dream to become principal of his Alma Mater.

Douglass graduates, as well as the total community, should wish him well in his new assignment and encourage those who truly care about the education of children to temper their criticisms and work with him to help Douglass live up to its heritage as one of the outstanding high schools in the nation.

Morgan University

In 1939, the state of Maryland purchased the Methodist school known as Morgan College.

With the state's support and funding, the northeast Baltimore college has developed into one of the finest institutions in Maryland and, in fact, the nation.

It looks with pride on its unique program and outstanding graduates.

Ten years ago the college initiated a Master's Degree program which has graduated more than 1,000 students.

In this year, 1974, Morgan seeks to take another giant step.

It wants to become a university, where it can offer advanced academic degree programs leading to the Ph.D.

The college's request has been under study by a number of commissions — the Cox Task Force, faculty and students, state college boards and committees.

Last week a sub-committee of the Maryland Council for Higher Education (called the Pear Commission), made a definitive recommendation that Morgan State College should become Morgan State University.

But the commission added a proviso — Morgan could develop only one doctoral program in urban studies with related areas as research and public service activities.

This does not fit well with the request of faculty, students, alumni and supporters for Morgan's university status.

Presently the matter is under study by the Rosenberg Commission on Structure and Governance of Education for Maryland and ultimately will go before the State Legislature.

We agree with Morgan's interim president, Thomas P. Fraser, who observes that the concept of Morgan State University is more than a mere name change. Rather, he points out, it shows the desire for opportunities to plan and develop programs, speak directly to the study and alleviation of the problems which now lie outside the college structure.

Specifically, he notes, that university status will confer on Morgan the right to plan and construct advanced academic degree programs that are needed by the heterogeneous student body and the urban community the graduate school serves, programs appropriate to the unique educational institution Morgan has become.

Secondly, university status for Morgan would be a major force in encouraging black students to pursue advanced graduate training necessary to prepare them for advancement in work-a-day world.

At present, fewer than 3.5 per cent of graduate enrollment in predominantly white institutions includes black students.

We would hope that the Governor and members of the Legislative will address themselves promptly to Morgan's request.

We agree with President Fraser that Morgan has "the experience required to rise to new stature and it has commitments of excellence and service that would assure the quality and direction of its new endeavor to be a university.

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.

(December 21, 1929)

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

Washington Report — by Parren J. Mitchell

The Holt amendment- what it would do to black citizens and other minorities

(Mr. Mitchell represents Md.'s Seventh District in the U.S. House of Representatives)

This week's column was prepared by Clarence T. Bishop, legislative assistant, in my Washington office. Mr. Bishop is a graduate of Morgan State College and has a master's degree in Urban Planning and Policy Analysis. He formerly served as a research associate in the Center for Urban Affairs, Morgan State College).

Most of the gains that we black people have made in the U.S., particularly in recent years, can be attributed to a very few key pieces of national legislation.

Two such laws which form the very core of any freedom fighting or progress gaining power that we have managed to attain are Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title IX of the Higher Education Act of 1972.

The first, Title VI, "prohibits the use of federal funds for programs that discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color or national origin."

The second, Title IX of the Higher Education Act states:

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

Without these two statutes, blacks, women, the poor and the working poor have little basis for hope of equal and fair treatment in our country.

During the last few weeks, there have been moves in the Congress of the United States which — if ultimately successful — would make Title VI and Title IX null and void.

I fear that most of us don't know that we could virtually be stripped of everything for which far too many have struggled, bled and died.

In the next few weeks, we could be left naked, totally defenseless against the forces of racism and bigotry.

The tool being suggested to gouge out our very existence is the so-called Holt Amendment to the 1975 Supplemental Appropriations Bill, providing funding for the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the Department of Housing and Urban Development; the Labor Department and various other government agencies.

This amendment, authored by Congresswoman Marjorie S. Holt (R-4th-Md.), provides:

"That none of these funds shall be used to compel any school system, as a condition for receiving grants and other benefits from the appropriations above, to classify teachers or students by race, religion, sex, or national origin; assign teachers or students to schools, classes, or courses for reasons of race, religion, sex, or national origin; or prepare or maintain any records, files, reports, or statistics pertaining to the race, religion, sex, or national origin of teachers or students, notwithstanding any other provisions of law or any request by any agency of the federal government."

Congresswoman Holt labels the Amendment: ". . . simply an attempt to clarify our law to give direction to the Office of Civil Rights in HEW."

However, all of the evil implications of this amendment say to America that the national policy will be a system of apartheid, South African style, in our public schools.

For example, no longer would the federal government be able to investigate allegations in Anne Arundel County charging that disciplinary measures are meted out disproportionately against black students, as opposed to white. (Incidentally, Congresswoman Holt represents Anne Arundel County).

The Holt Amendment would block HEW from obtaining the data necessary to prove or disapprove the charges.

No longer would HEW be able to threaten to withhold millions of dollars if Baltimore City or Prince George's County did not produce and implement a fair and equitable desegregation plan. The Holt Amendment prohibits the use of 1975 HEW funds in such a manner.

No longer would any minority group be able to demand access to quality instruction, adequate facilities and sufficient materials and supplies of any school system in the nation.

In effect, the Holt Amendment stops that, too.

If the Holt Amendment is upheld by the complete Congress and President Ford, I am confident that this will signal the beginning of an unrelenting attack, by those who feel that we've come too far too fast, aimed at slowly destroying the Voting Rights Act, the Fair Employment Practices Act and the Equal Accommodations Act.

And if that seems a bit far fetched, then we truly have learned little from the saga of Watergate and the reign of the Nixon Administration.

The House of Representatives has already upheld the Holt Amendment by a vote of 212 ayes to 176 noes; thereby, voicing support of a national policy of abandoning the concept of desegregation of schools.

Now, the fate of equal educational opportunity for minority groups lies in the hands of the Senate.

Hopefully, by the time this column reaches print, the senators will have found the intestinal fortitude and human sensitivity, that apparently many representatives lack, to reject the Holt Amendment and all of its evil implications for the future of disadvantaged and minority group persons in America.

REGISTER TO VOTE—Now is the time to get on the books so you can vote for the next mayor and city council persons to represent YOU. Register to VOTE now at Supervisors of Election, People's Court Building Fayette and Gay Sts. Office open Mondays through Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Next primary election for mayor and city council is Sept. 2, 1975. Get ready to VOTE now.

SANTA CLAUS in Mondawmin Shopping Center gets earful from 3-year-old Freddie Mason. Editorial on this page tells how YOU can help AFRO's Mrs. Santa cheer needy at Christmas. AFRO staff photo by Benjamin Murphy Phillips IV)

A little about a lot — by Madeline W. Murphy

Genocidal solutions for juvenile crime

Inevitably, the varying approaches to causes and cures for juvenile delinquency and crime lead to genocidal solutions, especially among those in the seats of political power and criminal justice.

When we see the use of detention centers for first offenders, runaways, unwanted children, who perforce become part of the hardened prison population;

Of concentration camps proposed by strict law in order types like Harry Kaufman, Hyman Pressman;

Of restructuring the courts and lowering the age limit from Commissioner Pomerleau;

Of unexplained lumping together of illegitimacy with causes of juvenile crime from the mouth of Juvenile Court Judge Robert Hammerman, we should be well aware that the black population is being encircled preparatory to extermination.

To illustrate, the latest edition of SKEPTIC, Special Issue No. 4 — CRIME, Forum for Contemporary History, features an article entitled, Crime and Dysgenics, by William Shockley, who poses the questions:

"Are the enormous Negro-white differences in statistical patterns of violence genetic or environmental? Have nobly intended welfare programs bred irresponsible psychopaths who don't learn from experience? Is psychopathy controlled by genes?"

It would seem that these same questions are implied in the punitive reactions of local politicians.

After reaffirming his thesis of inferiority of blacks on the basis of IQ tests, Dr. Shockley concludes that "If dysgenics, (inferior genetic structure), is found to be contributing to rising crime, then anti-dysgenic programs should be proposed and publicly detailed."

The familiar refrain smacks of Hitler's rationale to exterminate the Jews.

And though Shockley has been hooted off numerous campuses all over the country, he has garnered the respect and approval among many law 'n order types, who would rather put all you'ful offenders under the jail, after castration and sterilization, than to right the wrongs of society.

At the same time we see criminals of a different class and race comfortably ensconced in Fort Holabird with private room, bath, visiting privileges from wives and girl friends, shopping sprees and movie expeditions as their punishment for crimes committed against society, at considerable expense to us, taxpayers.

Up until 1960, the size of the age group of 25 to 65 was three times that of the age group of 14 to 24. By 1970, it was only twice the size of the younger population. Yet, at the same time the underlying causes of youthful crime have worsened: poverty, unemployment, unequal opportunity, unjust and discriminatory law enforcement, and a criminal justice and police system that produces its own share of criminals.

Add to that the problem of overcrowded detention centers, training schools, jails and court dockets; of inflating costs and reduced appropriations to the community for self help programs; of community apathy and resistance to community based foster homes, group homes, rehabilitation centers; of neglect toward our war veterans; anyone in his right mind should expect the spiralling crime rate.

Moreover, the historical flouting of the law in regard to unwarranted and arbitrary school suspensions and expulsions; to laxity in enforcing truancy laws has contributed to the kind of monstrous situation we have today.

Panic, hysteria, taking away rights of citizens will not change an already volatile situation.

What we need is planning and development of preventive programs, and there is good news and then bad news about how it can be done.

The good news: new legislation — the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act — will provide $75 m. for the current fiscal year; $125 million for the second year and $150 million for the third year, under the LEAA.

It will give local groups in the community an opportunity to plan programs to fight juvenile delinquency.

The money will be granted to the state under the Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice.

The bad news: the one hitch is that although the bill has already been signed into law by President Gerald Ford, he has threatened to hold back funding to curb inflation.

So again it will be up to Congress to force his hand in 1975, and up to us to wrest the money from the politicians and-or hustlers so that groups in the community, like the Concerned Citizens for Cultural and Educational Development can pressure the Governor's Commission to let them begin working.

At the same time, George Jude's proposal for a Human Renewal Commission, offered on this page last week, might begin to draw together all the proliferating crime fighting groups in this city to develop realistic goals through a unified effort.

Now and then — by G. James Fleming

Can we avoid another depression?

That is the question most in my mind these past few weeks. Can we really avoid a depression similar to the disaster of the 1930's? If we can, how should we go about it?

Indeed, for many thousands of people, depression is already here, as shown by the high unemployment rate, the highest since 1963; and by the high prices which prevent even those with income from living up to their usual standard of living—a standard which, for most, has only been marginal, anyhow.

I am not so troubled that President Ford does not seem to know what to do to reverse the climb of high prices and high inflation.

The real trouble is that no set of experts is in agreement as to what should be done.

All well-trained, honest and earnest, these economists, industrialists, and others, split down the middle as to whether or not the government should regulate prices, whether or not the government should levy an excise tax on some commodities, whether or not there should be compulsory rationing of scarce goods.

When the politicians and the foreign service experts join the economists and industrialists, there is more division, because what may be good for the country, viewed domestically, may not be good for certain politicians or for a political party, or what may make sense at home may not serve the administration's foreign relations objectives.

Take the control of prices.

Should the President change his mind and order price controls?

At one time, months ago, or years ago, it seemed that freezing prices might have served the people well, but now it is a case of controls after prices are already exorbitant and out of reach.

How much good would that kind of holding prices be to the rank and file breadwinner who must feed a family of four or six each week?

Or, should organized industry and organized labor accept a rolling back of profits and wages?

I know of no labor leader at the present time who would face his constituency on a platform of "Reducing wages to help the entire society."

I know of no labor economist who would not argue that ever higher pay for workers is not the antidote for current economic suffering and threats of suffering.

Labor looks at the escalating profits of business and asks "Why should labor pay the entire price of preventing depression?"

And, labor has a point when one looks as the booming profits of the oil industry following last season's gasoline "shortage."

Management, when challenged, takes out its charts and graphs. It talks, not only of domestic competition but of international competition and international "squeezes" which compel prices to zoom.

Nowhere is there a generally accepted solution to a depression.

Perhaps the extreme Socialists and the Communists may have an answer. If so, they ought to speak up. The Conservatives, too, should lay out their blueprints.

And, more than mere oratory and rhetoric, please!

This is not an invitation to throw out the baby with the bath water.

The truth is, however, that there is a mood in the nation which, if I listen aright, says that the masses of people, will not go hungry—they and their children—because the system will not give them an opportunity to provide for themselves; nor will they take kindly not being able to get to such jobs as they might have because they cannot get gas.

If the experts can not come up with answers, and before the plants and offices are burning, perhaps ordinary men and women can come together and flush up the ideas that, before long, would mean work for the unemployed and the bringing of prices within the reach of those who must exist on wages and salaries.

AFRO readers RAP

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 300 words in length. Address to "AFRO Readers Rap," Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, P. O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

An inmate's concerns

Dear AFRO:

The inmates who leave the penal system today leave in such a way that the prison officials say to them as they leave the front door, "I'll see you when you get back."

In some cases, a correctional official will make a side bet with the other officials as to how long the inmate who was just released will last on the streets.

When the inmate leaves the institution, if he has not been placed on the work release program, he will only have twenty dollars in his pocket unless he has managed to save a few extra dollars while being confined.

Since he has not been allowed in the past while confined to make decisions on his own, the inmate lacks the ability to make concrete decisions and be the responsible agent himself.

Twenty dollars is not very much money and the inmate now has to make up his mind as to how he is going to spend this money.

His thoughts are, "should I buy a few drinks, get a pair of shoes, buy a shirt, a pair of pants, or rent a room and spend a few bucks on a lady?" Decisions! Decisions! Decisions! How on earth can he make such a decision when he has not been given the right to do so in the past?

The penal system provided him with a crutch and he used it — none of the self help groups provided to be of any use to him. His entire life has been one ball of regulations after another.

It is a blessing to be free but being free from the penal system is not enough, simply because the responsible agent is no longer there and somebody must still assist him in getting his head together.

The work release program is a blessing also for many inmates but it, too, lacks the full motivation that is needed to keep men on the right track. Just giving a man a job is only half of the program that is needed.

But what about the motivation-building factors, what about the special counseling sessions that are needed, and when will the system stop to instill in the inmate the pride and self confidence that is required of him to keep pushing when the going gets a little rough.

Yes, our penal system here in the state of Maryland has a lot to offer, but in the wrong way. Those programs are excellent for the time period they were designed but what is needed today is more tratment-oriented programs gauged to the total man and not just part of him.

Decisions! Decisions! Decisions! How can any inmate make one and rely on it when he is daily being torn away from his right to be a responsible human being?

CLIFTON E. BOYCE
(Inmate
Maryland Corectional Training Center
Hagerstown, Md.)

'We try harder'

Dear AFRO:

It was gratifying to note the comments in Friday's AFRO (Dec. 7), by Dr. G. James Fleming about the importance of Baltimoreans shopping in Baltimore.

He rightly points out that if we, who live in the city, do not support in-city institutions and businesses, including black-owned businesses, they will be compelled to close down or move to the county, thus losing much needed jobs and taxes.

I would add to his remarks that those shoppers he mentions who boast of doing all their shopping in the county might be in for a pleasant surprise by selectively shopping in the city.

They may find that old slogan "we try harder" manifested in:

(1) Friendlier service.

(2) More competitive prices because these stores are in lower rent areas with a lower overhead than those in the county.

(3) A level of quality insured to keep old and attract old and new customers, because they deal more with steady, repeat customers than transient ones.

A city grows with the support of its citizens, but can only wither with neglect.

HERMAN KATKOW,
(Director Mayor's Advisory Committee on Small Business.)

College funds

Dear AFRO:

I want to thank you for the coverage you gave the participants in the Negro College Fund Campaign.

I also want to thank those who contributed in my name to this campaign through votes, and contributions, patrons and tickets.

So many people helped it is impossible to thank each one individually. These wonderful people made the campaign a memorable one in my life.

However, the most important fact is that these wonderful Baltimoreans helped our black colleges that need help.

LOIS M. ANDERSON

(Editor's Note: Miss Lois Anderson, 16, a Seton High student, was recently crowned Miss United Negro College Fund. She reported $3,168 of the $15,000 raised by contestants.)

Excellent

Dear AFRO:

On behalf of the staff and the community Mental Health Center wishes to thank you for the photo display and very excellent coverage of the services available at Provident Comprehensive Neighborhood Health Center.

I would also like to extend thanks to Mrs. Elizabeth Oliver, city editor, for her assistance in printing this article.

HARVEY WEBB, JR.
D.D.S., M.P.H.
(Executive Director)

REM INISC ING

By Loretta L. Tarwell

I've been sitting, reminiscing
Of how life's been good to me
I've been thinking, simply listening
How my heart beats merrrily
At this point in time I'm happy
'Cause the good outdid the bad
And I know this feeling aptly
'Cause the joy outdid the sad
Now I know I've not completed
All my sorrows, all my woes,
But I know I have defeated
Worries that will make them grow.
And the reason for this feeling
When my smile turns to a grin
And my mind just goes a reelin'
'Cause I'm happy from within.

Smile

"Hello! Is this Police Headquarters?" came the anguished voice over the telephone.

"This is the Old Maids' Home. Send a riot squad quick! A burglar has broken in!"

"Okay, okay," shouted the lieutenant at the desk. "Who's this speaking?"

"It's the burglar," answered the terrified voice.

Church views

Dear AFRO:

I would like to get others' views on a question that has troubled me for some time.

It seems that whatever job a person has held in his or her lifetime, whether it was the President of the United States, a mayor, senator, congressman, janitor, mailman, etc., they have been able to retire with pay after they have become of retirement age.

Although I am certainly aware that most Christians do not consider going to church and paying dues a job, I would like for them to consider the elderly with respect to paying church dues.

Although I know the church cannot be maintained without dues, would it not be an encouragement to the younger members if they knew that if they faithfully contributed to their church most of their lives, when they became senior citizens the church would still consider them as members without them having to pay dues; or better still the church would give them something for the faithful work they had done in the church?

AN ELDERLY FAITHFUL CHURCH MEMBER)

(Editor's Note: The AFRO solicits its readers' opinions on this interesting suggestion).

Help needed

Dear AFRO:

As the New Year approaches, it seems likely more than ever before that communities will have to share in the responsibility of solving some of our most controversial problems, housing, crime, employment, education, higher prices for food, equal opportunity for jobs.

We need volunteers with recommendations, and help in trying to make Baltimore a safe place to live in, where there is freedom from fear in streets, home, at work and many other places, even churches.

Volunteers who have a home they would allow an organization to work with a troubled child, in need of supervision are needed.

MS. MARY SOLLERS
(Urban Service Q Community Developer, 2003 N. Monroe St.)

A TRIBUTE

Bishop Stephen Gill Spottswood

In the field of civil rights, Bishop Stephen Gill Spottswood, who died Sunday at the age of 77, was a giant among giants. He will be deeply missed by the clergy and those who fight for rights.

Bishop Spottswood was no Johnny-come-lately in the civil rights field. Indeed, he had been battling for the better things in life for his fellow citizens since his maturity. From the distant day in 1919 when he graduated from Gordon College of Theology in Boston Bishop Spottswood began parallel careers as an ordained minister in the AME Zion Church and a civil rights activist as a member of the NAACP.

Down through the years, he pushed both careers with equal distinction. Back in the 1920's when it was unfashionable, he took part in sit-ins, picketing demonstrations and NAACP protests, and at the same time raised his strong voice in the pulpit.

In church circles, he pastored churches in Maine, Connecticut, North Carolina, Indiana and New York for 16 years before assuming duties at the John Wesley AMEZ Church in Washington, where funeral services for him were held last week. From this post, he was elevated to the bishopric in 1952, a post he held for 20 years, serving a jurisdiction with 300 churches in a dozen states.

He retired as an AMEZ bishop in May, 1972, but despite his advancing years and failing health continued to raise his voice against wrongdoing of every kind whenever the occasion allowed him.

His 40 years of field work with the NAACP was climaxed by his election to the board of directors of the NAACP in 1955, and assuming the chairmanship of the board six years later. He served as chairman of the country's oldest and largest civil rights organization continuously since 1961 to his untimely death. Many NAACP followers regarded him as a moderate on the civil rights issues in the era of militancy of the sixties, but, he always spoke with a strong, unrelenting tone.

He resented the thought that militancy did not begin until the sixties and once told an interviewer: "You think militancy began in the sixties? A clenched fist and a few slogans is all that is new. We had sit-ins, and picketing in the twenties."

'He fought the good fight...'

BISHOP STEPHEN GILL SPOTTSWOOD

Elderly Washingtonians agree with him, for many of them recall the protests, picket lines and pulpit speeches which led to the breakdown of the old segregation system in the nation's capital's schools, restaurants, theatres and churches.

Those who regarded Bishop Spottswood as a moderate found his voice and words still vigorous in 1970 when he ripped into the Nixon Administration for its attitude on civil rights in a NAACP convention speech. He declared: "This is the first time since 1920 that the national administration has made it a matter of calculated policy to work against the needs and aspirations of the largest minority of its citizens."

They were fighting words and caused a great stir in the White House, but Bishop Spottswood stood his ground. The Nixon Administration was exposed for what had been suspected all the time. This may well have been the crowning comment in Bishop Spottswood's twilight years as a civil rights activist.

He fought the good fight. America is better off because he trod the twin paths he did. The NAACP is not alone among those who will miss Bishop Stephen Gill Spottswood.

If YOU ask ME — by Bettye Moss

Mrs. Roland C. McConnell, (Isabel), is home from Children's Hospital, where she was confined for three weeks. She suffered fractured back and broken arm when she fell in her home.

Despite the fact that she will be confined to her Cottage Ave. residence for another six weeks, she was her usual cheerful self when this writer called her on Wednesday.

Cuff note: Mrs. McConnell is the retired government worker and wife of the chairman of the history department at Morgan State College.

Thinking-of-you cards to Mrs. Bessie Smith, the retired teacher. She is in Room 6009 at Provident Hospital.

In the next room to her is her niece, Mrs. Bessie (Sue) Womack, the Cherry Hill teacher.

Dr. Bruce Alleyne, the veteran dentist, is in Bon Secours Hospital, resting comfortably.

Warren Weaver, the housing exec and civic worker, is out of Church Home Hospital where he had minor surgery.

Dr. James Carr, City Health Department exec., has mended completely from cuts received in a fall. He returned to work this week and says he feels, "like a million."

More sick: — Mrs. Perry M. Jones, Sharon Baptist Church member, and mother of Mrs. Ruth J. Pratt, the school principal, fell on Thanksgiving Day while visiting Macedonia Baptist Church.

She is in University Hospital, Room 4-418, where she underwent surgery on her hip.

Dr. Robert McDaniels, the physician, is in University Hospital, where he also had hip surgery. He is doing nicely and expects to be home on Saturday.

Get this: Robert, Jr., a Johns Hopkins med grad, is an intern at the hospital where his dad is confined. In fact he made all the arrangements.

Love was bursting out all over at the Willow Spring Grove Hall on Hammonds Ferry Rd., on Tuesday evening.

There, his former faculty members and associates gathered to say warm, friendly 'Thank yous' to Robert (Bob) Curland, who retired after 32 years in the Baltimore city schools.

The testimonial dinner, was arranged by a special hospitality committee from Liberty Elementary School No. 64, Garrison Blvd. and Maine Ave., where Mr. Curland was principal when he retired last July.

What made this particular affair heartwarming was the true sincerity of the committee members who arranged the program, selected handsome, thoughtful gifts (plaque, money tree, memory book).

Most of the guests were black and most of the program participants were too. What they said about the smiling honoree made you know they did not think of him as a white person — just a dedicated human being they were happy to salute.

In this day and time when too many educators and others can't forget color, (or put too much emphasis on it), this demonstration was proof that integrated school faculties dedicated to educating children do encourage lasting friendships and engender deep respect and admiration.

It showed at the Bob Curland testimonial — Beaming with him at the head table were his wife, Ginny, and three of their four young sons.

Mr. Thelma Derricks wrote the words to, 'You've only just begun,' tribute to the honoree ("You've just begun, sharing your time with your four boys and wife ...") Mrs. Carolyn Willis led the group singing.

Other tributes: From Edgar Allen, a parent who praised Mr. Curland's "cooperation" with parents and pupils; Mrs. Roberta Greaves, a teacher 'we grew under your administration and we miss you;' and Mrs. Rose Gallop, his former vice principal, now principal of School No. 52, who remembered his 'dynamic' leadership.

Mrs. Loretta Byers called him a dedicated teacher 'who did something for each of us.'

Other tributes came from committee members Edward Blanchard, Doris Collins, Gertrude Faber, Carol Harris, Irene Siegel and Naomi Slade.

There were others — longtime associate, Mrs. Kathryn Friday, principal of Matthew Henson School No. 29, "We were friends ... he taught us so many things ...";

Mrs. Theda Wilson, specialist and former area director, 'thank you for the part you played in the advancement of children'; Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, retired teacher, who recalled the love and respect he inspired.

And, Mrs. Alice Pinderhughes, coordinator, Early Childhood, remembered Bob Curland "never looked at race," and was 'one of the greatest teachers I've ever known ...'

Guests gave the honoree a standing ovation. When they did, the three of his four sons present looked on with admiration. So did this writer.

When the honoree said quietly, 'tonight you've given me something I'll always remember,' there was a oneness in that room you could enjoy.

Bob Curland — teacher-friend-advisor-helper — who for over three decades demonstrated integrity, honesty, and fair treatment and demanded excellence in the classroom, the principal's office and in his relationship with others, had earned from them everlasting thanks. Isn't that grand!

Cuff note: — Although he's retired from public school teaching, Bob Curland will still have his finger in the education pie — he's part-time instructor at Community College of Baltimore; assistant professor of accounting at Loyola and of course, he is pursuing his work in accounting (he's a certified public accountant.)

More cuff: Isn't it odd how people's lives entwine! When the head of our house came to Baltimore 15 years ago to join the Baltimore YMCA staff, Bob Curland was one of the first persons he met.

Then, A. Paul Moss was associate general secretary charged with developing community programs in East Baltimore's Columbus Elementary No. 96.

Bob Curland heard of his leadership work and invited him to initiate the same kind of program at Eden Elementary No. 20, where he was then principal.

He did. Out of that initial contact, has grown a friendship which has lasted through the years. Small world!!

In new post — Mrs. Bea Wright is the new coordinator for the Office of Student Teaching in the Baltimore city schools. Mrs. Mary Ellen Lewis is her assistant.

It is Mrs. Wright's office which is charged with all field experience placements which include student teaching, participation, observation and demonstration lessons.

Prospective teachers and colleges desiring to place student teachers in the city schools will now negotiate through Mrs. Wright's office at 401 N. Calvert St., says the release which reached this desk a week back.

Couldn't happen to a more deserving person.

More people being kind to others: Twenty-minutes before the family of Charles G. Bennett was to receive friends at Sharp St. Methodist Church on Friday evening, friends and school associates had nearly filled the sanctuary to pay their respects.

Many knew Mr. Bennett as the kindly teacher who took such care with pupils slow to learn and who was eternally patient when they didn't understand and happy when they grasped the trades he taught.

Calvert principal, Isaiah White, put it best when he said these words at the funeral: —

"Charles Bennett was a true teacher who taught for the love of teaching. You could see this love demonstrated as he worked with students daily.

"Charles Bennett was a humanitarian with a deep love for people. He derived great joy and satisfaction from giving and sharing with others.

"Charles Bennett was always busy and in a hurry. His condition nor the advice from anyone could slow him down.

"Charles Bennett was an orderly man who took care of the smallest details. He had arranged all of his affairs long before he went to the hospital.

"With the staff and student body at Calvert will miss Charles Bennett. I will miss Charles Bennett and the standards he tried to establish. He was a credit to himself, his family, the Baltimore school system and the teaching profession."

More people being kind to others: Dr. Roland Smoot and Dr. Donald Stewart hosted that Sunday evening reception at Blue Crest to honor their new professional associate, Dr. Robert L. Young Jr.

Some 100-odd physician friends and wives were about to greet the honoree, his wife Wilhelmina; his mother, Mrs. Robert L. Young Sr. (Alyce), and Mrs. Young Jr.'s parents, Mr. and Mrs. Manning Howard of Rockville, Md.

Many know the young physician's dad, the senior Mr. Young was longtime mortician here. His uncle was the late famed physician, Dr. Ralph J. Young.

He is a Howard Medical School grad who interned at Sinai here in Baltimore, and is board certified in internal medicine.

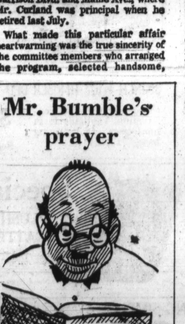
In April, 1974, the Rt. Rev. Edgar A. Love, beloved Methodist bishop, wrote a friend these words about his wife of 50-plus years:

"... she has been a most remarkable companion ... always behind me with her observations. I am praying to the good Lord He will let me outlive her so I can see her the proper care she needs ..."

Bishop Love did not get his wish. He died a month later. Mrs. Love, the former Virginia Ross, was given last rites today (Friday).

The Loves were truly a devoted couple. This writer followed them closely throughout their long career as church leaders, civil rights workers, and friends to many. We have many fond memories.

Mr. Bumble's prayer



Thank you Lord for she and he, who have born me.
Thank you Lord for letting him her conceive me.
For I'm only a child who has the life in front of me.
Days and years go by and I can't see Thee.
I know You are there. Thank you, Lord, for looking after me.

(Submitted by Deborah LaGrand, age 18)

Share your favorite prayer with the AFRO's Mr. Bumble.

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.

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, 628 N. Eutaw St., P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 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.

QUESTION: Will you be kind enough to tell me what happened in the Liddie Jones story on page 2 in Friday's paper? 11 paragraphs were repeated?

S. T.

ANSWER: We regret the printer's devil was at work. An alert proofreader noticed the repeat and eliminated the duplication on the makeover. Thanks for calling this to our attention.

QUESTION: There are ashes on my front in the 700 block of Baker St., which have been there since November. Are the ash men on strike? The same thing happened last year. I have called City Hall, but still no results. Can you help me?—

Mrs. J. L. M.,

ANSWER: AFRO-Line called the Hot Line (539-5151) and was told by a customer service spokesman that ashes are collected on the first day of your two trash days. If your trash days are Tuesday and Friday, then ashes should be collected on Tuesday.

If you missed again, call 396-3307. AFRO-Line called this number and was told very politely that your ashes will be picked up.

SPECIAL NOTE: Last week in this space, AFRO-Line received a query from Mrs. E. I. complaining that she was being billed for a cabinet which she did not receive from a large retail chain store. AFRO-Line spoke to the store manager who promised to handle the matter.

This week AFRO-Line received a call from the store's credit department advising that Mrs. E. I.'s bill has been straightened out, and the charges have been removed.

FOLLOWUP:—In this column on Sept. 14, C. J. A., prisoner at Maryland Correctional Training Center in Hagerstown, wrote this column stating that he had passed the high school equivalency test at the Training Center. In Feb., 1974 with the third highest score in his class.

He said that he received his diploma, made it clear to his counselor that he wanted to finish his education and enroll in a college program so he could major in political science, but was denied this opportunity and assigned to food service because he said, "in the counselor's words, my parole hearing, Dec. 16 was too far away."

At the time AFRO-Line promised to ask public officials to investigate this complaint since the writer requested special action by State Senator Verda Welcome and U.S. Representative Parren J. Mitchell.

Senator Welcome advises AFRO-Line that her investigation of charges made by the prisoner revealed the following:

"After very serious consideration of the data made available, we have proceeded as far as we can go at this time in his (inmate's) behalf. Our reports reveal that the prisoner has been extremely uncooperative on numerous occasions.

"He has been disciplined several times for aggressive behavior. According to correctional officials at Hagerstown and other branches of the Department of Corrections, he has not responded positively to efforts to counsel and help.

"He expressed an interest in the college training program and was advised that he could not be placed in that program immediately because of a waiting list.

"It was recommended that he enroll in an alternate course. However, two days before he was to begin the training, it was necessary to confine him because of a serious infraction of rules.

"In our letter to the inmate we have urged him to cooperate as fully as possible and to contact our office when the next opportunity for training is offered. We will provide every available support in helping him to make the necessary adjustments."

In the Mailbag:

Dear AFRO-Line:

Many thanks for helping me by telling me where to go for my Medical Assistance Card.

—MRS. E. M. C.

WHERE TO CALL FOR HELP

HOT LINE — 539-5151 for abandoned vehicles; dirty yards; garbage collection; street lights; street repairs.

POLICE — Emergency, 222-3333; community relations, 396-2710.

SERVICE — Ambulance, 396-1111; bad food, 394-4424; animal removal, 396-6218; fire, 685-1313; defective sidewalk, 396-3169; rats, 396-4418.

INFORMATION — City Jail, 396-5211; transit and traffic, 396-3048; job, 383-5468; legal aid, 539-5340; rumor control, 837-1188; rape center, 396-RAPE; pension reform bill, 962-3014.

MAYOR'S STATIONS — Govans, 396-6084