"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."
-Hungarian Freedom Fighter Kossuth

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)

Poor Baltimore county

We're not the least bit surprised that the Baltimore County Council rejected County Executive Ted Venetoulis's choice for county administrator.

James R. Reid, the 43-year-old planning director in Fairfax County, Va., was deemed the best choice for the post, but only three of seven councilmen agreed.

There was evidence that the Reid appointment would have hard sledding long before last Tuesday's tumultuous council vote.

He had undergone rigorous interviewing about his prior experience in Va. and in D.C., where he was a director of the anti-poverty program.

While opponents failed to tarnish his credentials, they used such code words as 'too liberal,' 'inexperienced, for this big job,' and 'he worked with urban development.'

Interpretation came shortly before the vote. A poison pen letter circulated the message loud and clear: 'There are enough people here (in the county), fully equipped to handle the job, men who have seen fit to marry in their own race . . .'

Reference was to the little known fact that Reid is married to a Kingston, Jamaica girl who is a graduate of the University of Harford and who has earned a name for herself as a counselor in federal agencies.

County Executive Venetoulis views the Reid rejection as 'clear indication that they (council members) prefer the sordid ways of the past to the fresh possibilities of the future."

We see the Reid vote as another indication that poor, dowdy Baltimore County ain't ready yet. But it ought to be. It has already contributed more than its share of sordiness to the American scene—Spiro Agnew and Dale Anderson, for example, who have brought disgrace to our state.

When the AFRO included Venetoulis on its November election ballot, it was with the hope that this fresh, eager young man would help turn the county around.

The Reid vote is evidence that in this short period he has not yet found the muscle to do it, but we hope, with the support of thinking people in that suburbia, there can and will be meaningful change.

No matter what they say in Towson and other parts of the county — theirs is not a white only land anymore. The multi-ethnic society in which we live demands that county leaders recognize they cannot turn back the clock.

Voters in Baltimore County and interested citizens should remember the three enlightened council members who voted to support the Venetoulis administration on the Reid appointment. They are, Council Chairman Gary Huddles of the Pikesville-Reisterstown area; John V. Murphy, Catonsville; and Norman W. Lauenstein, Essex-Middle River.

And, they should not forget the four who denied the Reid appointment: Eugene W. Gallagher of the Rosedale area; Eugene Kibbe, Towson; Clarence Ritter, Cockeysville; and John O'Rourke, Dundalk.

Baltimore County has a long way to go to get back off the road to ruin to which Agnew and Anderson and others were leading it.

Council leaders have a responsibility to show strong moral leadership to help their county grow and prosper for the benefit of all her citizens.

Commissioner Jordan

Ill health has forced James Jordan to step down as the state's first Commissioner of Correction, a post he has held since May 1970.

The record of accomplishments of this sensitive hardworking man is impressive. The range of his innovative programs is wide. They include improved facilities for inmates and the unprecedented hiring of black persons in policy-making positions throughout the prison system.

It was a gruelling four years service. A man of lesser strength and devotion would have given up.

Coupled with his fight to bring modern methods to the prison system was the battle Jordan had against the insidious forms of racism which face any black person in charge of a mammoth enterprise.

The wonder is that this alone didn't kill him. We're glad it didn't. Jordan is too valuable an educator and administrator.

At age 50, we hope he has many years ahead of him for service. One way Gov. Mandel can utilize his expertise is by naming him to the State Advisory Board for Correction, Parole and Probation.

Robert Lally, Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, is presently conducting interviews for a successor to Mr. Jordan. This important post should be filled by another black person who has proven he has the potential to continue Mr. Jordan's programs and initiate imaginative ones of his own.

No matter who is chosen, he must have the respect and free hand to achieve within the boundaries of his job description. One of these responsibilities is making recommendations for employment of wardens and other personnel.

We seem to remember it was Secretary Lally who vetoed Commissioner Jordan's recommendations for promotions and that the resulting furor sent both men to the hospital.

We hope Mr. Lally won't make that "credentials" mistake again . . . The corrections system post should be held by a black man like Mr. Jordan who can relate to the problems of the majority of the inmates who happen to be black.

Not Jervis Finney

Apparently Justice Department and other high officials agree with the AFRO that conservative Jervis S. Finney, is not the best Marylander for U.S. attorney here.

New questions are being asked about his connection to tainted political shenanigans, and, as we get it, other matters. Senator Charles Mathias, who really had reason to be sponsoring Finney in the first place, may not be so enthusiastic about Finney now.

If Jervis Finney played one kind of political game, no matter his claims he did no wrong, we fear he might play others if given this sensitive appointment. We don't think is a good gamble.

Our young readers

Day after our Friday edition appeared announcing a coloring contest for children to win free tickets to the circus, the mail was loaded with over 500 entries. Anxious parents called to confirm the deadline.

Young adult readers have responded with similar enthusiasm to another AFRO contest to pick Miss AFRO Pall Mall Menthol.

Because this is Black Press Week, our office has been host to a number of school children who are participating in our Newspaper in the Classroom program.

All this to say that those who are past 50 are likely to forget the importance of a circus ticket, the joy of winning a contest title or watching newspaper people work.

It remains for the older generation to continue to inspire younger people so they will not lose their zest for living and to help direct their energies in areas which will help them find rewarding experiences.

Speaking of the times: one of the elementary pupils who visited us announced he was opposed to equal rights for women.

A young women's department writer explained women want to have the right to dig ditches. The eight-year-old countered, 'but she might get hurt.'

Our writer responded: 'Has your mother ever spanked you . . . did it hurt?'

'Yes ma'am' came the answer.

'She didn't hurt herself, did she?' said our teen writer.

'No, ma'am.'

Our writer, 'And she won't get hurt digging ditches but she deserves the right to get the job if she wants it. She's a human being, too.'

'Yes, ma'am, I see,' he answered.

This adult writer who overheard this conversation shares it with AFRO readers to let them know young people today are alive, are thinking on their feet and are interested in relating to each other.

It is a joy to listen to them when they do.

AFRO credo

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

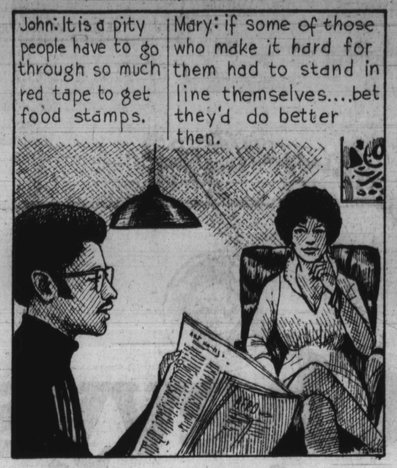
• Whether it has kept faith with the common people:

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

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

• Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and condemn injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

Dec. 24, 1920
(From the Papers of John H. Murphy Sr., who founded the AFRO-AMERICAN, Aug. 13, 1892).



Washington — by parren j. mitchell
Congress speeds up to avoid disaster

(Mr. Mitchell represents Md.'s 7th District in the U.S. House of Representatives).

For the next few months, certainly until June, almost all of my time will be spent in Washington.

Formerly, the Congress met only every other Friday. Therefore, I was able to block out these entire days for dealing exclusively with concerns, problems and meetings out of my two Baltimore offices.

Now, the Congress will meet on Fridays. The chairmen of the committees and subcommittees have further, scheduled early morning and night meetings.

These changes have come about because the nation is teetering on the brink of economic disaster.

I have been more fortunate than most congressmen because I can return to the 7th District each day. Some congressmen can only return to their district once a month at best.

By being so close I have been able to be actively involved in many group activities which ordinarily a congressman cannot do, for example, working with tenants organizations.

Activities now must be rescheduled. The economic situation demands that the Congress act quickly and effectively against inflation, recession and unemployment. People are being ground down by these three evils.

I serve on two major committees which are key to the efforts to fight unemployment, inflation and depression.

The House Budget Committee determines the recommendations on how much should be spent on health, how much on education, how much on the military, etc.

Service on the Banking, Currency and Housing Committee means that we on the committee must come up with solutions and remedies for defaults in mortgage payments; foreclosures of mortgages; rental increases; energy problems for home owners; etc.

I had planned to conduct four major hearings in Baltimore this spring . . . but these must now be postponed.

The planning of certain investigations in Baltimore have also been postponed.

In short, the major thrust, the highest priority must be the legislative, investigative efforts of the Congress.

I shall, of course, continue to stay as close as I can to citizen group activities which can utilize my support or help.

Needless to say, I will personally be in Baltimore as much as possible.

The staffs of the two Baltimore offices have been instructed to re-double their efforts on individual case solutions, since I will be in Washington and cannot handle some cases on an individual basis.

We shall do our utmost to meet all the Baltimore needs and requests but, for the next few months, the focus has got to be the Congress in Washington.

A Little About A Lot — by madeline w. murphy
Women's liberation and racism

A news bulletin from the Maryland Commission on the Status of Women, announces its program: "Baltimore Women Speak Out."

There are four locations: On Tuesday, March 18, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Clinical Auditorium, A Building, Baltimore City Hospitals and from 7 to 9 p.m. at Southwestern High School, 200 Fonthill Ave.

On Wednesday, March 19, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at Poly-Western High School and the Community Dining room at Dunbar Community High School from 7 to 9 p.m.

Women are asked to participate and speak on issues about child and day care, crime, credit, education, employment, health needs, housing, parental involvement, prisons, single parents, social security, widowhood, welfare or other problems on their mind. A real pot-pourri that has far-reaching implications.

But the weakness of this kind of program is that no one realizes that without fighting racism there can be no resolution to problems dealing with the gamut of human misery.

For, how can one group, in a vacuum, achieve freedom without addressing itself to the major sickness in Baltimore — white racism?

How will all women band together to fight this hate that destroys every program for the betterment of the human condition?

Women in the movement promise that once women become free of stereotypes, discrimination on the job, subservience in the home and at work, that men, too, will be freer.

But in a greater context, isn't this the very human problem between black and white?

Isn't the cynical purpose for continued division of sex and race a greater plan to divide, then conquer or control?

To pit one group against the other so that business goes on as usual, and the poor black, aged, women, welfare recipients, remain chained to a system that manipulates them for the benefit of the few who always profit from division: the banks, educational and housing institutions, health services, prisons, among others?

For example, it seems to be a pitiful waste of time for those Southeast Baltimore white women to burn up all that energy over peripheral issues, when their husbands and homes are threatened by lay-offs, utility hikes, higher gasoline, food and rent prices.

Since these things affect all of us, why fear using their enormous power collectively to change political control over all our lives?

Is it easier to hate than to make substantive changes in the quality of life?

If this is so, then there is no hope for future generations.

The Maryland Commission on the Status of Women, I fear, has copped out. Racism and Women's Liberation should be the first item on the agenda of Women Speak Out.

Maybe, just maybe, some brave group of women will address themselves to this pervasive subject on March 18 and 19.

Maybe, God willing, it will be YOU.

Now and then — by g. james fleming
Curfew and its many questions

A few days ago, I asked a seasoned social worker: "Are you in favor of a curfew law?"

She replied quickly: "No," then continued just as quickly: "But sometimes I get so frightened I would be willing to support martial law."

That kind of response—dilemma-infused — perhaps represents the feelings of most adults who are not extremely "for" curfew, or "against."

There are times when the news of muggings and killings, by teenagers, makes one feel that, as another interviewee said: "You have to fight fire with fire."

But, does a curfew law, to keep minors off the streets and out of public places after 10:30 p.m. (as does the law proposed for Baltimore) give promise of reducing juvenile crime?

Where are the facts — places, times and conditions — supporting the claims for curfew?

Where are facts, indeed, showing that minors are responsible for most crimes, or for certain kinds of crimes?

"Will a curfew law solve the problem of crime by minors or will it become part of the problem?", to use a question asked last week by Baltimore's Mary B. Adams, member of the City Council?

The Baltimore ordinance would make parents and operators of public places responsible for the minors found in public places, or on the streets during curfew hours.

This sounds like a smart idea, at first hearing. But, is it really smart, or productive?

Does it not place parents as hostages to their children who can, figuratively, hold a gun to their parents' heads and threaten, "If you do not do so and so, or do so and so, I'll stay on the streets all night tomorrow!"

Then, what about parents who must work and cannot always know where their children are — all the more so if there is only one parent in the home?

This column is strongly of the opinion that more research is required on the pros and cons of curfew laws, as a deterrent to crime.

There is too much generalization about curfew and its virtues or lack of virtues.

To repeat, proponents of a curfew law need to point to specific laws, in specific places, at specific times, and the results of their enforcement or lack of enforcement.

The opponents charge that curfew laws, against minors, would be held unconstitutional because, it would demand of youths what it would not demand of adults, and it would penalize both offenders and non-offenders.

Opponents claim, also, that it would be discriminatory punishing the poor — black and white — who so often have no home to go to, or no home that is as welcoming and comfortable as the outdoors or some public rendezvous.

If there is need for more research as to the virtues of a curfew law, there is little need for research to substantiate the fact that the rank and file of Americans feel that "something must be done" to deliver them from the kettle of fear in which they find themselves — fear over being assaulted, maimed or killed, sometimes by an adolescent, sometimes by a young adult.

Present-day Americans are not only frightened, they are aroused. Indeed, they may settle for curfew or, perhaps, even for something more extreme.

Some people say that, if some of the money being expended for war was assigned to improving the quality of family living, the whole picture of juvenile delinquency and youthful crime would change for the better.

Others want some regulation of television, so as to modify crime and quasi-crime stories which, it is averred, stimulate young people and the weak-minded into imitating the electronic heroes.

Still others say that youth crime is the price society is paying for keeping children from Sunday School and the church, and for over-all parental permissiveness.

Others blame the new-fangled voices of educators and social workers for the state of affairs which require consideration of curfew laws.

Taken altogether, it seems much research and thinking need to be done about minors and crime, to separate fact from fiction, and to insure that there is no punishing of the Peters, who have committed no offenses, for the Pauls who may have committed crimes.

The AFRO stands for

81 YEARS AGO — "The interests of the Afro-American population of Baltimore are identical and any faction of the race, which fosters strife in gratify its own selfish ambition, should be classed with the enemy."

From the AFRO-AMERICAN (April, 1893.)

Equal justice, not only in theory, but in fact before courts.
Adequate black representation on all public boards and commissions of Maryland cities, counties and the state itself, including colleges and universities.
Extensive and meaningful black political power.
Equal job opportunities in fact as well as theory.
Equal housing opportunities in fact as well as theory.
Black judges on all benches of the city, county and state court systems.
A black owned and operated taxicab company.
A black owned and operated bank.
A black president of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners.
Black cabinet officers with meaningful responsibility on the staff of the Mayor of Baltimore and the Governor of Maryland.
University status for Morgan State College.

Salute of the week

(Editor's note: Readers are invited to submit names of persons to be featured in this new AFRO column.)

When Franklin A. (for Augustus) Owens Jr., assumed his new job as Director of Employment Services for the state of Maryland, he became the ranking black person in the state agency.

Owens ranked No. 1 on the promotion list — with a grade of 99.7 out of a possible 100 — to qualify for the post traditionally held by whites.

In his new job, he is responsible for some 260 employees who work in the main office at 1100 N. Eutaw St., in Baltimore and in some 20 other offices throughout the state.

Mr. Owens is 'elated' over his new job. He said: "I guess everybody works toward the top position."

He promised that the department will "serve any individual who presents himself to our office looking for work." He added "Our basic responsibility under the funding of the Department of Labor is to place people in jobs.

"The order of priority is the handicapped, Vietnam veteran; the non-handicapped Vietnam veteran; claimants, unemployment insurance claimants; disadvantaged people; job ready people; anybody who seeks the service of the agency."

Mr. Owens who is a 33-year employee of the department, succeeds J. Donn Aiken, who retired in July, 1974.

Chief of operations, second in command to Mr. Owens is Henry P. Hamman.

Otis Oliver is manager of the Baltimore local office.

Offices throughout the state are part of the employment service Mr. Owens supervises. They are located in: Annapolis, Bel Air, Cambridge, Chestertown, Crisfield, Cumberland, Easton, Elkton, Columbia, Frederick, Hagerstown, LaPlata, Leonardtown, Oakland, Ocean City, Prince Frederick, Riverdale, Salisbury, Snow Hill, Kelson, Westminster and Wheaton. There are outreach offices in Cherry Hill and Hurlock, and interant offices in Princess Ann, Denton, Pocomoke, Salisbury and Grasonville.

Franklin Owens is no stranger to the Baltimore city and state employment problems. He grew up in the Monumental city — attended its public schools and has been a part of the core of the city all his life. At present, he lives in Pasadena.

He is the son of Mrs. Emma Owens, who still lives in the family's Whitelock St. residence, where the children grew up, and the late Franklin A. Owens Sr.

Mr. Owens is a 1934 graduate of Douglass High, and a product of Morgan State College. He began work in the employment service in 1942 as a junior interviewer.

His wife, the former Dorothy Peters, is a Baltimore teacher. Son, Franklin 3rd, is a physical ed teacher in the city schools. Daughter, Margaret, recently retired on disability from her teaching post.

Mr. Owens' brother, William, lives in the California Bay area. A sister, Mrs. John Minor (Blanche), resides in Turner Station.

FRANKLIN A. OWENS Jr.
99.7 out of a possible 100

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 them to "Our Readers Rap," Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

Death penalty bill

Dear AFRO:

It is really frightening to hear, listen and read of the many death penalty measures that are before us now. What really appalling, though, is the types of people that are demanding some type of legislation for revenging death by perpetrating death.

These people are so-called Christians, Jews, Muslims, etc. I cautiously scrutinized the teachings of these faiths and have found that none of these faiths condone the killing of another human being.

Yet, these very same people go back into their churches, synagogues and mosques and speak of love for one another.

My how contradictory and treacherous. Whether killing is done by the perpetrator or by relatives, friends and concerned individuals, of the perpetrates, it is wrong. (No one has the right to take another human being's life.)

It is commendable to have an unquestioning belief in something that does not require proof or evidence, but I would like proof and evidence, however, that killing is either just, fair or human.

I am cognizant that there are numerous deplorable actions, by sick human beings, that demand specific and strong legislation. But the killing of another human being for revenge is both the easy way out and the wrong way out.

Normally, one thinks of punishment, discipline and reforming and-or rehabilitating when action is necessitated by crime.

It is my contention that punishment is that penalty imposed on someone for a crime that was committed. Discipline, I contend, is that training and-or treatment that brings about self-control.

I contend that reforming is that process that makes one better by removing defects, faults, mal practicies and-or misconduct.

And finally, I contend that rehabilitation is a treatment that restores someone to a "normal" state of health, "Normal" state of health being determined by ones "society". Revenge, on the other hand, is that act taken to inflict damage, punishment, injury, and death, in this particular instance, as a retaliatory measure.

Vindictive spirits cause enough deaths as it is. Can we be regressing to those days of vigilante committees when there is currently a life-threatening gun problem in existence? Will once "normal" citizens begin avenging every and anything? I sincerely, and hopefully, hope not.

Most people, I hope, are cognizant that there are no simple solutions to complex problems. Killing is definitely a complex problem; to say the least.

Thoughtless and hasty actions, such as death-penalty legislation, will not solve our killing problem. If there is disbelief of this, I urge anyone to go all the way back through history and locate concrete evidence whereby revengeful killing has stopped killings.

In conclusion, I strongly feel that there are no short but sweet solutions to this problem. More sufficient means of punishing, disciplining, reforming and rehabilitating must be instituted by both our prison systems and courts.

The citizenship must be both better educated and treated in the areas of economics, politics and culture. And as a whole, everyone, be they affluent or poor, black or white, Christian or Jew, male or female, young or old, Republican or Democrat American or Communist, must give a damn.

MARVIN L. CHEATHAM SR.

Fuel stamp program

Dear AFRO:

I have written John T. Hewitt of the Energy Policy Office noting that in recent weeks several pieces of legislation calling for a national fuel stamp program have been introduced in Congress.

Of particular interest to me at present is S. 808 cited as "Fuel Stamp Act of 1975" by Senator Hartke, HR 2701 — "Fuel Stamp Program" by Representative Moakley.

I want to know if Hewitt has a fuel stamp program or pilot-type program in Maryland?

Will his office review pending fuel stamp program legislation and recommend to the Maryland Congressional Delegation, which bill is best for our state?

How much would a state-wide fuel stamp program cost without federal dollars?

I would not want to seriously consider this option, but the need to deal with the impact of escalating fuel costs on lower-income households, is more pressing than ever.

Lower income families in my district are reaching the point where they must choose between home heat and other necessities.

Many families in this state face the prospect of losing their homes because they can no longer afford their utility bills. — LARRY YOUNG.

(Editor's note: Mr. Young is a delegate to the General Assembly from Baltimore city's 38th District. The AFRO asked Mr. Hewitt to respond to these queries. He said answers are forthcoming, "after we get a copy of that bill. We are asking the Governor's Washington office to give us a copy of it and then we will have to digest it. But, we will see that you are notified when we answer the delegate's letter.")

Reeves for Council

Dear AFRO:

Concerned Citizens for Black Political Progress recently made public its intentions to draft Norman V. A. Reeves to become a candidate for the City Council to represent the Fifth District.

In making our selection of a candidate, these are the criteria that we used.

In reviewing a number of individuals who could be possible candidates, The Concerned Citizens For Black Political Progress came to the conclusion that Norman Reeves possesses the desired qualifications of a long standing commitment to fight against the conditions that have negatively affected our community and a proven track record for getting the necessary votes to be victorious.

Over the years, Norm Reeves has demonstrated a consistent concern for community betterment and constructive change. He has employed the full range of tactics, from picketing to petitioning to politics, from lobbying to legislation.

He fought for civil rights, open housing, better education and better police protection. Because of his involvement Norm Reeves has earned the respect of a broad spectrum of the community.

These qualities of leadership and broad-based appeal make Norm Reeves the candidate we would like to have represent the black community in the upcoming City Council election.

His record of activism and involvement will be welcomed on any block in the kind of record we would like to see duplicated in City Hall.

We know we can not continue to lose men of vision and integrity as we did in the last election.

The times demand that we generate another citizens crusade to rekindle our faith, our determination, and our will to effect change and take charge of our own destinies.

For these reasons, we ask the total community to unite around Norm Reeves because we need Norman V. A. Reeves in City Council.

JAMES M. GRIFFIN

Reporter Chatman

Dear AFRO:

The officers and members of the Baltimore Chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute extend to you our most heartfelt thanks for the fine article Reporter Angela Chatman wrote concerning our recent trip to the legislative sessions in Annapolis.

The youth of our organization considered the fine article as a beautiful token of encouragement, and pray that the AFRO will continue to keep our community well informed about the Legislature and its effect on our very existence.

JAMES L. MOSLEY
(President)

MAKE IT OFFICIAL — All Letters to the Editor must be signed and have an address to be considered. Initials are not acceptable. At your request, the name will be omitted when published. The Editor reserves the right to edit all letters.

Swisher fair?

Dear AFRO:

Now that William Swisher, our State's Attorney for the next four years, has taken care of his friend, John Hubble, and a dozen habitues (and big contributors) from the Block, by closing out investigations against them, don't you think it would be fair to dismiss the case against Paul Chester?

Chester was indicted for talking about what Hubble really did. Fair is fair.

J.J. CONWAY

BE KIND to somebody less fortunate TODAY. Share your money or volunteer your time to a public service agency. Send a contribution to AFRO Charities Inc., a non-profit organization, which will use your donation to help the needy. Address tax deductible contributions to AFRO Charities Inc., P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore Md. 21203.

HOW to work through the system to get the J O B you're looking for

(The following article was prepared for distribution to students and alumni by Clementine Kaufman, Alumni Liaison, University of Md. School of Social Work.)

1. Decide with flexibility where you want to work, both in terms of the field, (youth, geriatrics,) and geography, and the kind of setting, (private, public, residential).

2. Prepare a vitae about yourself. Make 25 copies at least. (Do not be modest). If you need help the alumni are prepared to help in any way that they can, and will be present on several dates in April to assist.

3. If you know someone in a given agency or field visit them first, and explore available openings, before going to the Personnel Director.

4. Call for an appointment with the Personnel Director of whatever agency in which you are interested. Public and private agencies appreciate this courtesy. It is strongly suggested you do not just appear.

5. The State of Maryland has a central Department of Personnel. The address is The Department of Personnel, Room 508, State Office Building, 201 West Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201. You may telephone: number 383-4631 for Applications and Specification Sheets.

The next Social Worker I application deadline for filing in the State of Maryland is sometime the end of April or early May. (Watch the Sunday Sun, the Sunday News American and the AFRO-AMERICAN).

It is an "unassembled exam" in which your application is graded on the basis of the information you give in your application. There is no formal written exam for this position.

If you have come from college directly to graduate school with little or no work experience, it is suggested that you take the "Professional Careers Test."

The deadline for filing for this application is April 1, 1975. This is a general test and a good way of gaining entry into State of Maryland service.

Every state agency of any size in Maryland has its own Personnel Department.

If you are particularly interested in Mental Hygiene, Department of Social Services, Corrections, Juvenile Services, or others, call and make an appointment with the Personnel Director in one of these agencies.

They are listed under the State of Maryland in the telephone directory.

For further information:

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene — 383-2939.

State Hospital Centers (Spring Grove, Springfield, Rosewood, Montebello and others each have their own Personnel Department)

The Department of Juvenile Services — 265-6400.

The Department of Corrections — 383-2116 or 383-4528.

The Department of Parole and Probation — 667-0700.

The Department of Employment and Social Services — 383-5421.

The Maryland State School System — 797-4300.

The Commission on Aging — 383-2100

Vocational Rehabilitation — 383-2182 — and others.

Each county has its own office. You must be on a State list in order to be employed except, in Baltimore, Montgomery and Anne Arundel Counties.

Also, there is always the possibility of local openings and-or a federally funded programs with unclassified positions. Therefore it is important that you check the local personnel office as well as the State Personnel office.

6. Baltimore City has its own personnel set-up. Within the next several months many of these agencies will be merged into the state classification system, however at the moment below is the city listing.

The following is a partial list.

a. Urban services — Community Action Agency, 396-1681.

b. Housing and Community Development, 396-3250.

c. City Hospitals, 396-8400.

d. Department of Social Services, 234-2121.

e. City Jail, 396-5207.

f. Waxter Center, 396-1324.

g. City Health Department, 396-4304.

h. City Civil Service Commission, 396-3877.

7. If you are interested in a Federal government job, you apply at the Federal Building, Lombard Street and Hopkins Place, telephone number 962-3822.

Or if you are interested in a Federal job in another part of the country call toll free 1-800-492-9515. That number will provide information, and will also tell you how to receive announcements about federal employment by mail.

The mid-level positions in the Federal government start at a GS-9 and range to GS-12. It is important to take the PACE exam.

PACE standing for professional and administrative career examination. The PACE Exam deadline for an application which would be graded in May has an April 20th deadline.

A recent brochure indicated that there were fewer openings than in the past, and that for example they were accepting no more Social Worker and Correctional Treatment applications until further notice.

This was dated October of 1974. It is possible that it has been opened since that date for employment in certain geographic localities.

If you are interested in working in the District of Columbia, Del., Pa., or elsewhere get hold of the local telephone directory of the city in which you are interested in working and write or call the city or state Personnel Department for detailed information on job applications.

In the District of Columbia there are both federal jobs and District of Columbia jobs now listed and there are two different Personnel Departments.

It is worth sending your vitae out of state to have on file with a specific agency such as a United Fund, a family service agency or a Catholic, Lutheran, Jewish or other service agency in a specific area. These agencies generally welcome people filing their vitae with them.

This is only the tip of the iceberg in terms of job information. If there is any further help that the School can be to you please contact me, Clem Kaufman, Room 315 or 528-7870.

A column of choice — by marion banfield
For the poor defendants, too

Watergate trials should give us a continued reason to examine our criminal justice system.

Richard Friedman, chairman of the Mayor's Coordinating Council on Criminal Justice, spoke to the Baltimore Ethical Society recently.

He made us aware of almost 100 men who were in jail because they were too poor to pay $50 bond. These men have all been accused of non-violent crimes. Some have stolen, some have not made support payments, and there are other non-violent charges.

Plans are being made to release about 500 non-violent accused men. Their release is not because of planned reform of the justice system. They are to be released because of serious overcrowding.

None of us wants to be robbed. Certainly, a man should give financial support to the family he helped to make. We need law enforcement for non-violent, as well as violent crimes.

However, those 500 men have less effect on our lives and government than the few highly educated, white members of the Nixon gang.

Those men were powerful manipulators of national and international affairs.

Their powerful arrogance endangered our civil rights regardless of race, religion or class.

Their deception of public trust made a farce out of "law and order."

If John Ehrlichman can request assignment to help American Indians gain rights which have been illegally taken from them, it is time for the black community to become more aware of our criminal justice system.

It is our youngsters who are the major body of juveniles for whom Robert Hilson gets inadequate money from the state legislature.

Those are our black sons whose hands grip prison bars on Forrest St., while the highly paid betrayers of public trust who epitomized Nixon-Agnew hypocrisy were spared the misery of the common prisoner.

Jails have not made better men out of a majority of inmates.

A choice is for black groups, including our churches, to become better informed about our court and jail system.

A choice is for us to share in changing laws and systems.

A choice is to join with existing groups, or to form new coalitions until the common man and woman, boy and girl can more justly have punishment fit the crime.

A choice, more importantly, is to develop a system that makes the offender a better person after going through a humane program of preparation to become a self-respecting, contributing citizen.

The humaneness that John Ehrlichman requests is a process more clearly deserved by thousands of less prestigious offenders of law.

Mr. Bumble prayer

Dear Father in Heaven:
Teach us to walk uprightly before men so that they may see You through us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(This week's prayer to the AFRO's Mr. Bumble is submitted by Mrs. Sandra Scott of West Fayette St.).

Share your favorite prayer with the AFRO's Mr. Bumble, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203.

Salute to Black Press

Dear AFRO:

I trust that you may find space in the AFRO-A, to insert my small tribute in behalf of the Black press. It takes me back to 70-years ago when a boy, I used to peddle the AFRO in the streets of the city. But the AFRO has come a long way—so have I—in all that time.

Thanks for this opportunity — to become a part of the AFRO's family — celebration.

ALBERT TAYLOR
(Reisterstown Rd.)

(Editor's note: March 10-16 is Black Press Week. The AFRO, now in its 83rd year, joins with the 137 other black newspapers which belong to the National Newspaper Publishers Association in celebrating the 138th anniversary of the founding of the first black newspaper, (Freedom's Journal).

Mr. Taylor's verse is reprinted here).

Black Press Week

A Torch — Light — continues to shine
Over the space of years,
Truth! A symbol of Light;
That we all should share.

It's no other way —
To reach a goal,
Its reward is eternal;
No silver nor gold.

Darkness is upon the earth
And truth is submerged.
And truth (light) will triumph
It's now being heard.

Let (All) support the Torch,
That it more than equals the test.
By God's Grace and Power
Its servant, the Black Press!

Where To Call For Help

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

POLICE — Emergency, 222-3333; community relations, 396-2716.

SERVICE — Ambulance, 396-1111; bad food, 396-4424; animal removal, 396-6218; fire, 685-1313; defective sidewalk, 396-3168; rats, 396-4418; food stamps, 234-2751; off furnace check, 396-4429.

EMERGENCY — Housing, heating or light, 234-2412; after 6 p.m. and weekends, 234-2175.

BALTIMORE ANSWERS YOU (BAY) — For help in problems with city agencies, 396-1234 (10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.).

WELFARE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION — 233-4760.

INFORMATION — City Jail, 396-5211; transit and traffic, 396-3049; drug abuse counseling, 396-2729; job, 383-5468; legal aid, 539-5340; rumor control 837-1188; rape center, 366-RAPE; pension reform, 962-3914.

MAYOR'S STATIONS — Govans, 396-6084; Greater Homewood, 396-6060; Northwest, 396-0024; Steuart Hill, 396-6207.

Smile

A camp counselor was supposed to get some work out of the twelve boys lined up in front of him.

They weren't as enthusiastic as he thought they should be, so he tried using psychology. "I've got a nice job for the laziest man here," he said. "Will the laziest boy raise his hand?"

Eleven hands went up.

"Why didn't you raise your hand?" he asked the twelfth.

"Too much trouble," drawled the boy.

Afro Line

EDITED BY TRUDY STEELE

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 56, between the 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 of 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: I was talking on the phone recently when I heard a noise that sounded like static and the other party asked me to hold on for a minute.

When she returned she said she had another call and explained that she had a service called, "Call Waiting." Can you explain how this works or how I may go about getting it? — Mrs. A. D.

ANSWER: A C&P Telephone Co. spokesman told AFRO-Line there are four new services which have been introduced in certain areas of Baltimore city.

He described them as follows: —

1. Call Waiting — When you are talking on the line and someone else tried to call you, you would hear a beep and you would be able to answer the second call while you kept the first caller on the line. It works similar to the hold button but it's a regular phone.

2. Call Forwarding — If you are going to someone else's house for the day you can have your calls automatically ring at your neighbor's or friend's phone.

3. Speed Calling — If you have eight (8) numbers that you call frequently a special code is assigned so that when you dial those numbers, you don't have to dial a complete number, just one or two digit code numbers.

4. Three Way Calling — If you want to add another party to the conversation while the other party is on the line, you can dial another number and have a conference call.

C&P says these services are available only in residence phones in certain areas in Baltimore City right now, but it will become available to everyone in the near future.

At present they are available on these exchanges: 235, 243, 254, 276, 325, 332, 335, 338, 362, 366, 426, 467, 542, 547, 563, 578, 624, 889.

QUESTION: This is in reference to the ad in your paper with states "Gracious Living — Moderate Rent — St. James Terrace Apartments."

You should see the condition they are in. Also the help they have there. You should correct this ad before you print another one. — Mrs. J. S.

ANSWERS: A spokesman for the St. James Terrace Homes told AFRO Line that the apartments compared favorably with other moderate rent housing for the elderly throughout the city.

The spokesman added there is normal turnover but no exodus. At present he said, the homes have 100 per cent occupancy.

AFRO Line suggests the reader be more specific in her complaint and AFRO Line will be glad to investigate.

QUESTION: While I was visiting the AFRO office last week, I noticed that they are digging up the streets and the building actually shook. The noise was unbearable. How can you stand it? What is the digging all about? How long will it take?

I also noticed that most of the people doing the work are white and of those white people, most of them are young. Why are there so few blacks employed? Mrs. S. A.

ANSWER: A spokesman from the Public Information office of the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company told AFRO-Line that the digging is part of a project that has been going on for some months now to install high voltage underground cable from the substation at Pratt and Greene Str.

It will come up Paca and Eutaw Sts., to Madison, then go east on Madison to behind Fallsway, then one block south to Monument St. to another sub-station.

The spokesman added: "This is to reinforce the electric supply in the downtown area. We're on the final lap of it. Depending on the weather it should be no longer than two months I am sure."

As to employees, the spokesman said: "We employ many blacks. I can't answer why there are so few out there. It may have something to do about the makeup of those particular crews.

"They are divided up and sent different places. I can not help you on the number of blacks employed or the rates."

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 Elections, People's Court Building, Fayette and Gay Sts. Office open Monday to 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.