"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

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May we let our light so shine that it will illuminate that which is good and beautiful and magnify our Father which is in Heaven.
CARL MURPHY

(1889-1967)
Editor-Publisher (1922-1967)

The crosses we bear

None of us needs a magnifying glass to know that all around us there are problems: unemployment, poverty, unequal opportunity, crime and hatred because of race and color. It is the same old story as Easter 1975 comes, and these are the crosses many of us must bear daily.

We could, and perhaps should, add to these other distresses — the daily annoyances which come from people in public places who fail to exercise even minimum common courtesy when asked to help solve problems of those less fortunate.

We could point to those in high places, particularly on the federal level, who make irresponsible statements and judgements with total disregard for those who elected them.

And we can single out the modern day Judases who would desert the cause for freedom for a favor or a tip, who would accept gifts of money or position rather than stand for right and support the cause which would benefit not the few but the many.

In many ways it is the same old world; the same old story.

The Easter Message, the Resurrection of Christ — tells us that He rose from death to eternal life.

We interpret Easter as a joyous occasion, a time for rebirth, a time to assess our goals, a time to renew our hopes and restore our faith.

Today's problems — unemployment, poverty, crime, racism, et al — are nothing compared to those roadblocks our forefathers faced. But they dared and broke the chains.

With increased interest of citizens on all levels in solving their problems, the opportunities our young people have grasped and moved ahead with (many of which were unheard of in their parents' time), there is every reason to believe we have the stamina, faith and courage to fight for right and remove the crosses we carry on our backs.

It may seem to be the same old story, but things are different; things have changed.

So, as we celebrate the joy and the solemnity of Easter, 1975, let us hope that somewhere we find greater unity, determination and strength of purpose in meeting the daily challenges we face and move toward the victory goal where we may drop our crosses.

What's in a name?

Md.'s Gov. Marvin Mandel told his press conference last week he would not comment on university status for Morgan and Towson State Colleges until the Commission on the Structure and Governance of Education (Rosenberg Commission), he appointed two years ago, makes its report in May.

At the same time, the Governor asserted giving university status involves no substantive change for the two colleges and offered this gem, " . . . there is absolutely no cost involved in changing the name of Towson State to Towson University or however they are going to change it, except changing the stationery and the signs . . ."

About Morgan, he added: "They, (the trustees), recommended authority to make a name change . . . but to have a separate board for Morgan is going to be very damaging . . ."

On the surface, these remarks might appear valid if we did not know how the Governor talks out of both sides of his neglect if they did not recognize the need to rectify the wrongs Morgan has suffered.

University status for Towson, in President James Fisher's own words is to be "cosmetic." Put another way, it is just a word change.

On the other hand, Morgan's position on university rank "is very clear and one that has been carefully planned," explains Dr. Thomas P. Fraser, interim president.

"In a word," says Dr. Fraser, "we are unalterably opposed to any plan that would bring to Morgan anything less than university status. This has been our position and it is very well known in educational and political circles around the state."

AFRO files show that Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, who retired as Morgan's president in 1971, submitted the recommendation for university status for Morgan in early January, 1969.

Many of us bear crosses today

Now and then _____ by g. james fleming

From Easter thoughts to food stamps

It will stand repeating this year what Easter means.

It means rebirth, a rising up from what was considered dead, starting a new life out of the old, making success out of failure. It is the story of the phoenix, in religious terms.

The phoenix is described as a large, "fabulous" bird, "bright-colored" and sweet of voice. It lived for about 500 years but, in the fullness of time, it made itself a nest of twigs, sat on it, set it afire, and burned itself to death.

But, from its ashes another phoenix sprang forth, new and strong.

Down the years, speakers and writers have paid their respects to the phoenix as an example of the inborn capacity of each failure to bring forth a new success, for every death to lead to something with new life. We read terms "like a phoenix" or "phoenix-like."

Easter and resurrection need not wait for physical demise.

Each human being, each people, each nation must find ways to achieve rebirth when dark days bring what the society or the world calls failure or downfall.

Every student who flunks a course or a school-term must decide whether he has come to the the end of his ropes or, whether, phoenix-like, out of the ashes of failure, he will create a new (and more successful) future.

Great nations of the past, such as Greece, no longer a leader in world thought or in world affairs, had to find a way to build a satisfactory, new life in the modern world.

Great Britain and Ethiopia, in our own day, then past glory behind them, must follow the example of the phoenix, of the Eastertide, and rise again somehow, if they are not to die as nations.

Even the United States has a lesson to learn from Easter — whether we shall give up hope, admit failure in meeting the challenges of peace and prosperity, or whether we shall start anew, building just as our Founding Fathers did some 200 years ago — but better, much better.

Part of building better must include finding a way to feed the hungry and underfed, not only abroad, but also in our own land.

It would be amusing, if not so sad, to see this great nation chiding over how to distribute food stamps to its increasing numbers who desperately need them.

Does it make sense that a super power which can send men to the moon and police half the world, cannot devise a plan to get food stamps to its hungry and unemployed?

Does it seem rational that this country, which can find millions to conduct police actions and wars, and support an irresponsible CIA, cannot find the means and the management brains to employ its people who are able, anxious and willing to take care of themselves?

What kind of people are we who can sell war savings stamps and bonds in our banks, and all kinds of extras in our post offices, but find these institutions unwilling or unable, to handle food stamps?

This kind of roadblock to food for the people is the stuff out of which revolution is made.

And the powers-that-be — in and out of government — need not think that middle-class Americans will not take to the streets, together with the poor, when the middle class finds itself as squeezed as much as the poor.

If our present recession, (more correctly, depression), represents the phoenix on its nest, ready to set it afire, at least there is alab the challenge, (and the hope), that this people, out of distress, will build a new nation — economically, politically, socially, and philosophically.

A Little About A Lot _____ by madeline w. murphy

Curfew Bill is mass hysteria

State of things — by val and don hymes

State Legislature has problems of perspective

The guy in the gallery doesn't know what to make of it.

The 1975 session of the Maryland General Assembly is almost over and yet few exciting issues have been developed or new policies shaped.

True, freshmen legislators are traditionally expected to grope around seeking holy grails, but they have in the past come down to earth by this time to deal with the dirty work — the bread-and-butter issues.

It's unfair to generalize, and a hard core of hard-working lawmakers are still struggling with the taxes-for-local-governments issue. But aside from that, this legislature has a highly unusual character.

It has more new people — and non-professional politicians at that — than any other in memory. On the whole, it's hard to tell how everybody is voting: by their own conscience or their constituents' wishes.

"Thank God this isn't an election year," one veteran senator said last week in a luncheon speech when he tried to explain what had been going on in Annapolis.

The time spent in trying to decriminalize marijuana — which could never pass — or the money to be spent in helping purchase the Orioles baseball team, he labelled "crackpot" in considering the crucial issues facing Maryland.

Well, it might as well be an election year, judging by the election-year issues on the front burner. It's like old home week in 1974, 1970, and in a few cases even 1966.

Remember the blue laws issue? They're still saying they want to wait for a report from a study commission. (Not the same one, but the same idea).

Remember the death penalty? It hasn't been used, Supreme Court or not, since 1961 in Maryland, and 23 men still wait on death row to be gassed.

Remember the ban-the-nonreturnable-bottle issue. They're still lobbying and throttling and bottling that one up in committee.

And speaking of lobbyists, they're still trying to uncork the truth about the money they spend on the juice of the grape or gastronomical goodies for the legislators.

What's really important this year, it appears, is not the threat of a depression, but a driving desire to do away with things.

The death penalty, they figure, will do away with crime, and strong efforts are under way to do away with smoking in public places, computerized super-market checkouts, the Censor Board and the Pimmit Institution.

So what else is new?

Certainly, we can't overlook the progress being made toward solving some of the fiscal problems, like using the cigarette tax — which nobody except a few die-hards in tobacco-growing Southern Maryland can oppose — to fund that jaded wonder, the circuit-breaker.

All of this, however, doesn't help the local governments, which are scraping the bottom of the revenue barrel in facing next year's budget demands. The governor's only answer on that one, besides a few dollars of cigarette money, is to criticize the salaries paid to school teachers and administrators.

Everybody knows the big tax boost is coming next year — $100 million is a figure often cited — as soon as the Sherbow Commission reports. So this year the strategy is to stand pat, no matter how bad things are.

Other than fiscal problems, though, even the legislature seems to have a problem of perspective.

There are such meaty issues to be solved as the special state prosecutor bill, some crucial energy problems, like protecting the shoreline from offshore oil drilling now that it seems imminent, revising the juvenile code, and so forth.

Death and taxes, blue laws, soda bottles and cigarette smoke. All of these issues are important to somebody, but right now the citizens of Maryland are looking for something else.

Call it leadership, call it policy-making, call it confidence: the folks who pay the bills are looking for direction in these confused and critical days.

There are as many far-sighted veterans and pioneers as there are wanderers and stragglers on the road to the end of this session.

But with one exception, the Maryland General Assembly has yet to speak in a loud, clear voice on any one issue. And that one will earn it the reputation as the legislature that brought the gas

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We are Americans, and as Americans, we would speak to America. . . .
Frederick Douglass

PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro-American

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

Right on, Provident!

Dear AFRO:

I was admitted to Provident Hospital recently under Dr. Claude D. Hill. I was very apprehensive about going and had a negative attitude towards the hospital.

But I must sincerely thank the staff of 4E, Admissions, Personnel, Lab and EKG departments.

The service was prompt and friendly. The food was well prepared and as hot as I have had in any hospital. In fact, hotter than some. The staff and my room were clean.

My only complaint is that some of the foreign-speaking physicians, (and this is not only at Provident but other hospitals, as well), seem to get 'an attitude' when patients ask them to repeat or explain something.

I suggest that they speak slower, clearer and smile, even if it hurts. The patients must understand before they can answer properly.

MRS. GLORIA PATTERSON

Beautiful Western Hi

Dear AFRO:

The senior class of Western High School held its Parent-Daughter Reception on Sunday, March 16, at the Western-Poly cafeteria.

This is an annual affair which was formerly the "Mother-Daughter Reception" but this class evidently felt the male parent deserved a treat as well as the mother and daughter. Luckily for this writer, men were welcome.

The parents were treated to a light repast of finger sandwiches, nuts, mints, cakes, punch and lots of friendly greetings.

During this segment of the program they were lightly entertained by a senior class delight billed as "Music During Reception," by Sarah Schmidt and Jackie Keyes.

The welcome was given by the leader of Fortunate's Fabulous Fortunate Females, Rochelle Webb, president of the senior class.

She also introduced the musical selections, "Menuet de Marie" sung by Jenny Reilly; "Summertime" rendered by Karen Hill; a piano selection, "Sonatina in C-sharp 28, Number Three," by Clementi and performed by Jocelyn Dashbitch; and "The Way We Were" sung by Sonja Merchant.

Next the "Fashionable Dozen," with Mrs. Jackie Tyler as commentator modeled clothes made available by Jay's Designer Fashions and shoes courtesy of Mary Jane Shoes. Mondawmin Mall, in scenes entitled "Move into Sportswear" and "Daytime Wardrobe."

Having no ply for the mill were the models Rosalyn Bailey, Lettie Barnes, Donna Butler, Pam (Miss Earth) Barnett, Theresa Hicks, Toni Jarrett, Stephanie Paparides, Mitzie Sherman, Denise Smith, Dee Switzer, Valerie Thornton and Doris Veney.

Many of the these girls look forward to professional careers in modeling and related performing arts.

The dance segment of the program followed with a ballet by Anne Bell, a modern dance routine by Patricia Rose and more ballet by Journeee Bass and Leda Fuller.

All of these performances were of such perfection and excellence one could think Fortunate's Fabulous Fortunate Females wrote the book.

Back, again, came the Fashionable Dozen to model clothes from their own wardrobes in a scene entitled "A 'Little Bit of Me" wherein the narrator, Mrs. Jackie Tyler, gave the audience a glimpse of the direction each model is pointed.

This was capped by a show of evening wear called "Stepping Out."

Dressed as they were in reds, peach and polka dots, these girls will be stepping out, and out, and out, and . . .

A treat surprise on the runway were Mrs. Susan Miles, vice principal of Western High; Mrs. Edith Henry, Mrs. Joan Gaither and Mr. Charles Hayes, all senior class advisors.

The thunderous applause that shook the building was for "The King," Mr. Angelo J. Fortunato, principal of Western.

To be a man so appreciated and esteemed by so many girls should qualify him as "emperor" or "baron."

The program blossomed with the touch of Mrs. Joan Gaither whom the girls affectionately know as "Mrs. Gaither," and more affectionately, "Ms Joan."

Turns and moves, steps and size of the models let you know they have been brushed by "Ms Joan and they love what they had touched.

It all added up to a beautiful treat to a beautiful day with the beautiful people of Western High School.

ERNEST O. BROWN, M.D.

Here is a special prayer for everyone who does not feel well

Heal Me, Lord
To everyone who does not feel well.
Heal me with thy spirit, Lord,
Deliver me from pain;
Heal my feeble body, Lord
And make me whole again.

Let me feel thy power, Lord,
Let your will be mine;
Give me strength, forbearance,
Lord,
It's peace I want to find.

The world has known no power
Like your kingdom up above;
Fill me with your spirit, Lord,
Shield me with your love.

Heal my broken spirit, Lord,
I beg you to endower;
Hear my humble prayers, Lord,
Heal me with your power.

Heal me with your mercy, Lord,
Mend my disposition;
Keep it looking forward to
A Heavenly transition.

Whatever you see wrong, Lord,
Please make it right with me;
Whenever you see it fit, Lord,
Relieve me, is my plea.

Heal me as I pray, Lord,
Please hear my meek petition;
May your design for me, Lord,
In your time, reach fruition.

Let it be Lord, Amen, Amen.

BERNICE B. LEWIS

ADA supports people bills

Dear AFRO:

In light of the increasing problem of unemployment, the Baltimore Chapter of the Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) has gone on record in support of that legislation which we feel would do the most to relieve the plight of the unemployed.

We urge support of the following legislation:

1. Senate Bill 276 — extending the benefits to higher income brackets, and providing 66 and two third per cent of a worker's normal wages through unemployment insurance.

Though we feel that 66 and two third per cent is still too low a rate of return, and that it should be increased to 75 per cent, it is felt that this legislation is a move in the right direction.

2. Senate Bill 213 — improving the tax structure under the unemployment insurance law to help build a reserve fund which is presently inadequate to meet the demands now being made on it by the vastly increased load of unemployment.

Additionally, we strongly urge an amendment that would raise the taxable wage base to the annual state average of $8,000.

There is certainly no valid reason for continuing the state wage base at the low level established long before the recent inflation.

3. Senate Bill 408 and House Bill 756 — would bring state employees under unemployment insurance provisions. It is high time to recognize that recession can also affect public employees.

4. House Bill 214 — changing the limit of children to four for whom an individual claimant may be paid a dependent allowance, and changing the maximum qualifying age for dependents to be commensurate with the age of majority.

5. Senate Bill 611 — mandating that no person shall be denied a grant from General Public Assistance-Employables solely because he is receiving unemployment compensation benefits.

6. House Bill 261 — which would cover high school graduates who are unable to find work after six months. The terrible effects of teen-age unemployment must be remedied.

We ask legislators consideration of the above legislation so that the condition of many thousands of unemployed workers may be made more tolerable.

ROBERT G. SHEEN, President
Baltimore Chapter, ADA)

If YOU ask ME _____ by bettye moss

As certain as the forsythia bloom this first week of spring, you can bet your bottom dollar the son man is out and busy.

You know the usual — those who sell top soil full of weeds, or offer to pave your driveway (cheap) and if you fall for this, you soon discover the cement is absolutely no good when it washes right away when the first rain comes.

Attorney General Francis Burch warns this week that there is a new kind of con artist at work — the one who has flown north at "bargain" prices.

Burch warns consumers should be on the lookout for these frauds — deal only with reliable businesses and save yourself some headaches.

In particular — if a guy in an out-of-town refrigerator truck approaches and mentions his waste, run the other way.

One lady, who didn't stand up paying $2.50 a pound for prime ribs steaks the con artist sold were $1.98 a pound.

But, if you can not resist the bargain offer and you do get taken, do notify the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division No. 1 S. Calvert St., phone 383-3727). Best advice—don't fall for the con's stories. Buy from recognized dealers, like those which advertise in this newspaper and welcome your patronage.

Mother-daughter: — About 40 years ago to the day, in May, 1935, this writer was initiated into the Delta Sigma Theta at Howard University.

When the ceremony ended and the lights went on, there was my mother standing behind me to pin me. I didn't know she was coming.

It was a thrill, not only because she was my mom but because she was one of the ladies who founded our national sorority in 1913 at the same Howard University.

History does repeat itself. Wednesday evening found me at Virginia State College where daughter, Rachael, was initiated into our beloved sorority.

Just as mom did me, I surprised her and when the lights went on and it was time to be pinned, there was her mother. She reached as I did forty years ago.

There were the expected tears of joy and embraces and happiness that can only come between a mother and daughter.

A dream came true two Sundays ago when an organ, presented in memory of the Mrs. Dorothea Clark, was installed at Mt. Olivet Christian Church. The downpayment came from contributions of friends and relatives at the request of her daughters — Madames Dorothea

The following excerpts are from a 1971 article we did on the occasion of Mr. Rawlings' retirement after 48 years on the job:

William (Bill) McKinley Rawlings had his big day on Sunday.

"He was his usual genial self as he listened to friends and co-workers praise him for 48 years devoted service to the Baltimore city public schools.

"Mr. Rawlings retired last year as acting director of adult education, a field in which he has been involved as teacher, administrator and innovator for the better part of his school career.

"When his friends finished extolling him as outstanding Mr. Rawlings took charge of the program.

"For 30 minutes, he turned the tables to pay tribute to them and the 300 guests.

"He told them he plans not to retire but to continue his lecturing at Johns Hopkins and take time to enjoy himself.

"It had been noted earlier that he met his wife, the former Irma D. Hatton at a friend's house many years ago where he played 'I love you' on the piano.

"This moved him to remark, 'It's been 33 years since I've had my hand on an organ so I plan to learn to play the pipe organ. His wife, seated at his side, beamed.

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 728-5266, Extensions 65 or 52, 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: Can you explain prorated rent? After paying the required security and rent fee for my apartment, I picked up the keys a few days before I moved in and was later charged half the monthly rent.

The stipulation was not in the lease and when I questioned the secretary, she said, "I told you about it but you were not paying attention."

Please explain this to me. — Mrs. D. M.

ANSWER: A spokesman told AFRO-Line that some companies will charge you for the days you have the keys to a house before the lease begins. This is what "pro-rated" means.

If you move in beforehand, you may be liable for the rent, but it should have been made clear.

Some companies are accommodating enough to say for instance, "Four days to go, we don't mind, you can start moving in and we won't charge you rent."

AFRO-Line suggests you call Baltimore Neighborhoods, at 243-6007, and give them the name of the company. They will follow through with the management.

QUESTION:

There are questions that need answers concerning operation of the Maryland State Lottery.

For example, what are the odds against winning?

Is the lottery rigged too much in favor of the state? No 50-50.

Are winnings controlled by printing a limited amount of lottery numbers that are the same?

On the 50 cent lottery tickets for a particular drawing date, all have different six digit numbers; could there be only one $50,000 winner?

Is there somebody to see that buyers, of Maryland state lottery tickets are getting a fair shake, or is it blindly left to politicians and the lottery commission? — A.P.

ANSWER: This reader's queries were directed to the Md. Lottery Commission. Sam Lankey, a