I am an American, and as an American, I would speak to America... Frederick Douglass-1817-1895

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)

School Board hassle

Whether Mayor Schaefer's administration is dedicated to quality education was a question discussed at the last School Board meeting.

Mrs. Grace Hines, who co-chairs a concerned citizens' group, raised the question in her plea to the school commissioners to settle down and run the public's business.

Several readers who speak their minds on this subject on our Page Opposite place the blame at the mayor's door.

Concerned Citizen Hines reminded her listeners about last November's upheaval when some blamed Superintendent Patterson for all the school ills and talked of replacing him. She remembered a responsible group offered the mayor a solution.

They suggested a citizens' panel from which he could select knowledgeable persons to sit on the board whose sole commitment would be to focus on educational problems to benefit all children.

Instead, Mayor Schaefer picked his own nominees. Recent rumblings and actions indicate there is just as much uproar in store as there was in November if an attempt is renewed to remove Superintendent Patterson without just cause.

Our correspondents over on the Page Opposite have detailed many of the community's concerns, about secret meetings, unannounced visits to Baltimore of former superintendency candidates and the like.

What we'd like to emphasize here is that Mayor Schaefer owes the community a full statement as to his position in the School Board maneuverings and the reports of impending removal of Superintendent Patterson.

Is he for continuing the innovative programs Patterson has started? Or is he bowing to those who would abruptly halt such progress? Is there a political motive on a hidden agenda?

Mrs. Hines' plea that the people have input in evaluating Dr. Patterson's three-year administration just as they did when he was hired, has great merit.

And, we support this position Mrs. Hines took in her appearance before the commissioners:—

"The people know that to have quality education, it must be accomplished by the unified efforts of all, the people, the blacks, the whites, the rich, the poor, the educated, the uneducated.

"The people know that education in this city is the number 1 priority and that all who are involved must be honest, and forthright in all their dealings.

Empty Law Day words

All over America yesterday (May 1) voices were raised in celebration of the 18th annual Law Day, to focus on a rededication to the ideals of equality and justice under law.

President Ford's proclamation hailed this year's theme, "America's Goal: Justice Through Law," as imperative "in order to preserve and strengthen our cherished freedoms . . ."

Throughout Maryland, ceremonies featured other such pious pronouncements by public officials. The Baltimore City legal journal, The Daily Record, published a special 32-page edition, observing that Law Day "should not be marked by despair but with justifiable pride . . ."

Our perusal of this special edition, featuring articles by some of the nation's leading legal minds, shocks us into the realization that even in this year 1975 there are too many who offer congratulations for progress and too few who address the urgency for greater reforms.

And nowhere in the astute writings do we find any direct references to the real injustice perpetrated by our legal system, namely, the continued inexcusable racism which pervades the legal and law enforcement bodies in our state and nation.

It remained for Supreme Bench Judge Joseph C. Howard to take the bull by the horns. In his May Day speech at Morgan State College, he said unequivocally that the time is now for the judiciary, the legislative bodies and elected officials to improve the minority picture if there is truly to be cause for celebrating Law Day.

Take a look at these figures in Maryland alone:

Total judges — 178, 10 black
Federal judges — all white
220 prosecutors, 2 black
5,500 lawyers, 73 black
11 corrections administrators (wardens, etc.), 1 black.

As an aside, Gov. Mandel's decision to elevate Mark A. Levine, white, as commissioner of corrections to succeed James Jordan, black, is another cause for distress at this juncture in our history.

Nationally, racism is just as pronounced. Of the 400,000 people who make up the justice system, only 9 per cent are black. Of 16,000 judges, just 326 are black.

Only 19 of the 700 federal judges are black and none of them serves below the Mason-Dixon line or west of the Mississippi River.

Of an estimated 25,000 prosecutors and assistants, fewer than 300 are black. Of the 356 wardens and top correction administrations, only 10 are black.

Of 90,000 police officers in the U.S., just 7,050 are black. Of 300,000 lawyers, fewer than 4,000 are black.

These startling figures are dramatic evidence there is lopsided administration of justice and questionable equality before the courts for all citizens.

Since black people make up a substantial portion of the citizenry, they deserve, must have and must demand an equitable share of the jobs which determine their destiny.

It doesn't encourage black citizens to develop confidence in the system when a respected member of the Baltimore bar defends token appointment of black judges.

In a Thursday television show, it was suggested Governor Mandel's recent District Court selection of a young black lawyer, (Robert Bell), was fortunate for black people. This in a Baltimore City court system which has only four black judges out of 21!!!

Any Law Day celebration which addresses itself to "equality before the law," "mutual respect," "sense of justice" and ignores the obvious scandalous inequality of law enforcement representation is guilty of hollow and dishonest rhetoric.

Who's impeding progress in our schools?

Washington——by parren J. mitchell

Time for low and moderate income housing

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

The housing legislation which I introduced on Tuesday, April 22, fulfills a commitment made in 1968, and reaffirmed last year, in the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 the construction or rehabilitation of 6 million subsidized units during the 1968-'78 decade.

It provides for 3 million additional subsidized housing units for low and moderate income people during the next 3 years.

The House of Representatives has recently dealt with two pieces of emergency housing legislation for people already in decent homes or able to afford them: one to help them get new housing and the other to avoid foreclosures. I supported both of these bills.

Now it is time to enact housing legislation for low and moderate income people who have been the focus of much housing discussion, but who have been denied effective housing programs.

Nine out of ten people with incomes above $50,000 get housing subsidies through the tax system.

Nine out of ten people with incomes below $3,000 get no housing subsidies at all.

The average subsidy per household for people with incomes below $3,000 is $90.

The average subsidy per household for people with incomes above $50,000 is $2,300.

More than two-thirds of all housing subsidy recipients have incomes above $10,000. Fewer than 3 per cent have incomes below $3,000.

It could, if HUD's method of calculating costs is valid — be about as expensive as our present system of tax subsidies for the affluent.

According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's own estimates:

There are 1.5 million households with incomes below $1,000 annually who are eligible for housing subsidies, but for whom there is no subsidized housing available.

There are 3.1 million households with incomes between $1,000 and $2,000 who are eligible for housing subsidies, but for whom there is no subsidized housing available.

There are 3.6 million hoseholds with incomes between $2,000 and $3,000 who are eligible for housing subsidies, but for whom there is no subsidized housing available.

There are 3.2 million households with incomes between $3,000 and $4,000 who are eligible for housing subsidies, but for whom there is no subsidized housing available.

There are 3.1 million households with incomes between $4,000 and $5,000 who are eligible for subsidies, but for whom there is no subsidized housing available.

Almost all of these families live in housing which is either unsafe, unsanitary, or which costs so much that they cannot meet other basic needs.

For example, in 1970, the median rent paid by families with incomes below $2,000 was $79, or at least 47 per cent of their incomes, leaving no more than $86 for all other needs.

The average renter family, in contrast, had an income of $6,300, and paid rent of $108, or 20 per cent of income. This left more than $400 monthly for all other needs.

Specifically, the bill provides for the following additional subsidized units over the next 3 years:

One million units of public housing — not section 8 — with at least one-third of these allocated to nonmetropolitan areas.

One million units of subsidized rental housing, as follows: 25,0000 farm labor housing rants; 75,000 rural rental units under section 515 of the Housing Act of 1949, 15,000 with rent supplements; 200,000 units of section 202 housing for the elderly and handicapped; and 700,000 units of section 236 below the market interest rate.

One million units of subsidized sales housing, as follows: 250,000 units in rural areas under section 502 with interest credits; and 750,000 units of section 235 below the market interest rate.

A little about a lot——by madeline w. murphy

What does the Bicentennial mean to us?

The Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History met in Washington, D.C. at the Shoreham-Americana, April 25-27, with 250 delegates and observers, at an interim meeting — its National Humanities Bicentennial Conference.

The thrust of the meeting centered around plans for black people's participation in the National Bicentennial celebrations that will be going on now through 1976.

Questions presented were, "What is the Bicentennial? What are blacks planning to do? How do blacks shake the federal money tree?"

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), a federal agency created ten years ago by legislative mandate, makes humanistic knowledge available to insure the excellence of the humanities in language, literature, historical philosophy, architecture, practice of the arts, social sciences, ethics and comparative rengion.

NEH, not to be confused with the National Endowment for the Arts, operates on a budget close to $83 million. And researchers in history, librarians, curators, teachers, all vie for 1,200 grants or fellowships awarded each year.

It's a big money tree, and with the impetus of the Bicentennial, all kinds of proposals are flooding NEH with black people competing for a token share.

However, this agency offers an excellent opportunity to upgrade black museums and libraries, since participants struggled over which museums and libraries across the country would house the increasing permanent collections of black history, artifacts and art!

Nevertheless, superficial questions posed at the meeting, were challenged by a vocal minority, who wondered, "What does the Bicentennial mean to black folks?".

Their thesis was that the Bill of Rights and Declaration of Independence were not written with blacks, nor slaves in mind.

Like the Magna Charta, they reasoned, these documents kept the status quo among serfs, slaves, indentured servants and poor people, while perpetuating the moneyed interests of barons, landed gentry, and property owners.

Moreover, the most pertinent question asked, was "How do we begin the next 200 years, making these vaunted documents relevant and enforceable for the vast majority of oppressed peoples in the country?"

And finally against this background, "What should be the focus for blacks in the Bicentennial year?"

It is important to educate and establish lasting monuments in the world about the contributions of blacks as a tortured, exploited yet creative human mass in this country, but isn't it time that we cease to be the chattels who further the fortunes of the free enterprise system and its flourishing robber barons?

The last hired, first fired, as a result of an economic upheaval that has now encompassed one-fifth of the oppressed!

Yet, if our participation is merely to be a rubber stamp, then our own revolution, that still flounders, struggles, vacillates, at the whim of a few comfortable assimilated blacks, who are deluded into believing that working only within the system is the best way, is a farce.

It would seem that it is our responsibility, however, not to be lured by grants, endowments and trappings, like so many carrots on sticks, tantalized by superficiality, but to make America relevant through the Bicentennial, to all the hungry, poor, dispossessed, worldwide who remain neatly hidden, out of sight, out of mind, as if behind the yellow plywood fences, like the auto graveyards you see as you approach the city on Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

Too often, we have been diverted from our mission, competed like hungry, mad dogs, snarling over a bone for poverty, model cities, housing funds, that cause us to forget what our collective revolution for change is really about.

Let it not happen again, at a time when the opportunity is ripe to make America fit the pattern of its words to the now tattered blood stained fabric of its deeds.

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 towardice of compromise.

(DECEMBER 24, 1920)

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

Now and then——by g. james fleming

Meaning of Morgan University status

Two thoughts on university status for Morgan State College:

1. Answer to "Why university status?"
2. On strengthening of college, proper.

There are still many people, friends and well-wishers of Morgan State College, who are not sure the college needs to become a university.

Some, resort to, "the time is not ripe" reaction. Others are worried that the state will not provide university-sized funding.

Still others are afraid that university status will lead to "cheap, easy" doctoral degrees.

It is worth repeating that "university status," by law, merely permits Morgan to develop beyond being just a liberal arts undergraduate college.

Indeed, Morgan is already offering and awarding the masters degree in several fields.

Its hands should not be tied against moving farther and higher, as demands, circumstances and resources permit.

This moving forward may include offering the doctor's degree in some areas, but Morgan's past record for integrity is the best protection against hurry and ease in granting doctoral degrees — indeed, protection against any easy degrees.

Those who are afraid of university status should remember that a university is not born fullgrown. It develops.

Some of America's great universities started as academies, just high schools; others started as normal schools, some as teachers or clergical colleges.

On the other hand, there are some institutions with the word university in their corporate name, which have never developed according to the early dreams of their founders and remain colleges.

Then, too, there is the Massachusetts Institute of Technology which is of university status, without being named university.

Fisk University and Lincoln University are, in fact, substantially undergraduate colleges, albeit outstandingly so.

Tuskegee Institute and Hampton Institute are accredited, 4-year-colleges (also granting the masters degree), despite their names.

To climax the variety of possibilities, Bryn Mawr College awards the Ph.D. degree.

Morgan's fight to have its status changed from college to university was necessary in order to have the state join in the commitment to the kind of opportunity for development that university status suggests.

The change was not principally to have a more prestigious name.

But, even name-changing, for change's sake only, has an importance in a world in which many institutions are competing for the same students and faculty, but especially students.

It is true that "university" — just the name — is more appealing and attractive to most students than the name "college." At least, so the educators feel.

In the case of Morgan, (and to be honest), with the University of Baltimore, situated in the middle of the black community and very near to all public transportation, it is competitively necessary that Morgan also be a community.

But, to Morgan's credit it must be emphasized that in seven years University of Baltimore entered the Maryland state college system, Morgan had begun its thrust for real university status, starting with the Jenkins' "white paper" of 1967.

FOR A STRONG COLLEGE — When and as Morgan State becomes a university by law and in fact, a great fear is that the top command will become so gung-ho on building a university that it will neglect the college, proper.

This must not be. A good, basic college is still important, since most students do not venture beyond the first degree.

A college is foundation stone.

Morgan State will need growing and strengthening both in the direction of its 4-year college and in the direction of its higher university levels.

This fear is expressed because there are several universities in this country which are famous for their professional schools, for instance, but whose undergraduate colleges, as colleges, have been allowed to debilitate.

They exist only on their old reputations or on the names of their parent universities.

The college at Morgan State has grown to be a good, accredited liberal arts college.

Its students are admitted to all the major post-graduate and professional schools of the world. But, neglect will hurt any educational institution.

This column prays that Morgan State will make every effort, and commit itself to keeping its college an outstanding one. University status should help, not hurt.

Here's to a great undergraduate college in a great university.

RIGHT DOUGLASS — Two weeks ago, this column credited the wrong Douglass for the part he had played, as a legislator, in bringing about the passage of Senate Bill 354 in the House of Delegates, giving university status to Morgan State College.

We threw our bouquet at "Robert" Douglass, a member of the House of Delegates. This was an error on our part. The credit should have gone to Senator John Douglass who scored highly in explaining the bill and clarified its fiscal aspects to the House Constitution and Administrative Law Committee. Of course, both Douglases helped the bill to pass. Senator John Douglass is the first black person in the history of Maryland to head a major committee in the state legislature — the prestigious Joint Budget and Audit Committee, with 18 members, a staff of 104 and a budget of over $2 million.

Salute of the week

(Persons featured in this column are suggested by AFRO readers. Send your nomination to Salute of the Week, Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203)

The spotlight this week is on the newest foreman at the International Harvester's parts depot located in the 2000 block Washington Boulevard in south Baltimore.

The person who surprises 30 men on a crew is 26-year-old Cynthia J. Scott, a Morgan State College graduate. She's 5 feet 2, and weighs about 125 lbs.

And although she is the only female in the huge warehouse, Miss Scott reports she enjoys her job, has no problems, except getting used to walking long distances because the men work in widely separated areas of the 6.6 acre plant.

"The men treat me very nicely, with a lot of respect," Miss Scott reports. "Like any foreman, I've had to have a talk with a couple of them, but their response was really positive."

And, she is strictly business on the job, no flirting or dating. "It just doesn't work if you are female and the supervisor," she confides. "it's better to keep things strictly business."

The real key to smooth adjustment as first woman foreman in the giant warehouse, according to Miss Scott, is, "I try to be me, wherever I am. I am basically a very friendly person, and I get the same response back."

She admits to at least one shocked response to her new career as warehouse foreman. Her mother, Mrs. Marie Hinton, of Watty Court, simply asked, "You!!?!"

Miss Scott, who resides in Woodlawn entered IH management training last August and was promoted to foreman in February. She said she hopes to advance in International Harvester management.

She worked earlier as administrative specialist in the State Department of Employment and Social Service, and as employee benefits coordinator at Provident Hospital.

She applied to be an IH foreman through an ad in the Sunday paper. "I saw that ad, and said this will be my challenge," she recalls. "And it is."

Miss Scott hopes to enroll in graduate school at Morgan this fall, and hopefully remain with International Harvester.

She attends St. Larence Catholic Church, likes tennis, horseback riding and swimming. She is a product of Baltimore public schools and a graduate of Edmondson High.

She belongs to the Leaguettes, a group which supports the work of the Baltimore Urban League.

Mrs. Hinton, Miss Scott's mother, also holds a unique job. She is a "scaleman" at Bethlehem Steel Co., Her husband, Sp. 6 William Hinton, is in the Army at Ft. Benning, Ga.

Miss Scott's father, Alfred Malone, is employed by a trucking firm.

Miss Scott's brother, Charles Lewis, is a painter. A sister, Sharon, Hinton, 16, attends Walbrook High.

The Hintons attend Pa. Ave. AME Zion Church.

MISS CYNTHIA J. SCOTT
Newest warehouse foreman likes unique job.

Readers RAP on Julian, Schaefer, Patterson, Berman

PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro-American

Make it official

The writer's name and address must be included in all Letters to the AFRO.

Those with printed or typed names and initials will not be considered.

The AFRO reserves right to edit all letters.

Appalled by Julian

Dear AFRO:

I was appalled to read of the recent statements made by city Council Emerson R. Julian in relationship to Baltimore's School Superintendent dilemma. His contentions were not what really shocked me, though, it was the inopportunistic time that he made them.

At a time when the School Board is evaluating Dr. Patterson's performance, sharp criticism should be directed to the Board itself, and not the public. This is not the time, nor was it the place to prejudice the Board.

I am somewhat concerned, also, about Julian's harsh words for the manner in which Patterson's supporters showed their support.

Picketing has been one of the most significant vehicles used by both blacks and whites alike in bringing our feelings to the attention of the proper officials.

I must bring to Councilman Julian's attention that we are espousing to some degree, when we ride around with reelect Dr. Julian stickers on our cars.

I would like to paraphrase a song of my fraternal organization that I contend fits this to the point. If the cause is just, we will follow still, because "our cause speeds on its way."

In the past I have been a silent backer of many things that councilman Julian has stood for, however, I am skeptical about, and questioning what prompted his statement. Iseriously hope his recent misfortunes did not prejudice him to come out of his quietness.

It is my contention, nevertheless, that the Board should allow itself to become cognizant of public opinion to assist in their evaluation, but, at an opportunistic time and place.

I agree with Councilman Julian that an elevation is needed, but Dr. Patterson was the individual who requested an evaluation be made, back in 1974, and not the Board.

Dr. Julian has, in the past, been an extremely concerned and active councilman for this city, but "members must not get weary."

Taking that first step out of the city by sending children to private schools may lead to leaving the city altogether.

It has been said that "when times get tough, the tough get going." The city needs you. Dr. Julian, your Council needs you and we concerned black citizens, need you. Don't stray away, the fight has just begun!

Most everyone can agree that the city schools are drifting more and more towards mediocrity. But as Julian stated these present conditions did not come about in Patterson's tenure.

They were both prevalent and in existence long before Patterson came here. Cognizance of the aforementioned fact should definitely be a determining factor as to whether or not we retain Dr. Patterson.

As I had previously said in a prior article, "our problems concerning the school system are too numerous, too complex and too demanding for us to get sidetracked by political and racial ramifications."

Our only priority must be quality education "by any means necessary." If this means firing the Superintendent, the School Board President, the School Board, and getting a new mayor, then let us move in this direction.

But we must take the pains to scrutinize the situation fully. The citizenship had no voice in the selection of the Board President and little voice in the tokenism placed in school board members. I could expound further, but I hope that readers get the message, we either had little say or none at all. get involved and stay committed to the most important thing in this city, namely, the quality education of Baltimore City school children.

MARVIN L. CHEATHAM, Sr.

Former student commissioner says:

Dear AFRO:

I have directed the following letter to School Board President Norman P. Ramsey about the situation concerning School Superintendent Patterson:

"Dear Mr. Ramsey:

"As a former student commissioner, I am aghast at the press reports that the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction would be evaluated without involvement and input by the community and parents of the children.

"During my service on the Board, it was my observation that the larg part of the problems with the functioning of our school system was the failure of community and parent input and involvement with meaningful and serious decisions relating to the education of their children.

"In any evaluation of the vital office of Superintendent of Public Instruction over the past 3½ years, it should be mandatory to have objective and unbiased evaluation of the great educational accomplishments during this period.

"In case your tenure on the Board has not been of sufficient length to have knowledge of the areas where these areas of accomplishments have been made, they are as follows:

"1. Reorganization of the school system
"2. Fiscal management
"3. Qualified teachers
"4. R2R program
"5. Student Bill of Rights
"6. Management By Objectives
"7. Implementation of Desegregation Process
"8. Equal education opportunities
"9. Adult education programs
"10. Regional Advisory Council

"In light of these educational accomplishments, the very questions of the competency and effectiveness of performance by the current Superintendent of Public Instruction is a direct insult to the parents, students and community.

"Therefore, if the reported allegations in the media are accurate, I have no choice but to believe that the reason for the Board to reject parents and community input and involvement in the evaluative process is their desire not to have an objective, unbiased evaluation based on integrity.

"I hope that the newspaper reports were and are in error and that you will use your position as president of the Board to insure full involvement of the community and parents in the evaluation and decision relating to the tenure of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, because this is the most vital decision relating to quality in the education of our children in the next ten years.

TYRONE S. FRANCIS
(Student Commissioner 1973-74)

An open letter to Dr. Edgar Berman

Dear Dr. Berman:

"Thank you so very much for admitting that it is indeed necessary to have a sense of "double consciousness" in this society and that racism is still rampant in American education.

"Perhaps, too, an apology is in order to your ancestors for your being a member of an oppressed people who has chosen to join the oppressor.

"As to evidential behavior of manners and respect in your background, there is an obvious deficiency.

"One can certainly appreciate your having been made to endure ghettos, ghettoes and discrimination; however, it is not the same as having to endure the aforementioned along with a strong degree of high visibility.

"For some reason, "clear people" have less difficulty accepting those who can assimilate with respect to hue.

"There is no argument with the idea of the black student being lucky if he can start with equal footing, but such is not possible with culturally biased tests dictating his level of entry and a system which predetermines failure unless he, too, proves himself ten times better.

"The dominant culture attempts to control his destiny and calls him a "troublemaker" if he refuses to be programmed.

"As to the homes and schools where we are, if a problem may partly have its genesis in the home, it can not then begin in the school. In addition, indictment in generalities is to debate in fallacious and illogical reasoning.

"Moreover, the Moynihans of the world are not necessarily the accepted authorities on the black American by all who claim to be a part of the intelligentsia by virtue of their credentials.

"It is rather ironic that those who attempt to imitate the dominant culture are decried as inferior and those who defy the pattern are labeled as abnormal or deviant.

"When one charges that the many problems of our schools today are worse in the predominantly black schools and then goes further to blame black educators for this situation, it is clear that the author is addressing the symptoms of our overall society — that of indifference to human rights by all segments of the society — and not the cause of the crises in our schools.

"It should also be noted that it is rare, indeed phenomenal, for black educators to determine a state educational budget or any salary scale for teachers.

"Turning to weeding out of "troublemakers", I suppose it takes one to know one. It is also vitally important that for clarity in communication, one recognize that the definition of terms used depends upon not only the speaker, but also the receiver of the message.

"Lastly, whatever the tradition, background and economic status of whites who are able to be graduated without earning that graduation are indeed, it would appear that you certainly know of what you speak.

LUCIA S. HAWTHORNE.

(Editor's note: The writer is on the speech communication and theatre arts faculty at Morgan State College.)

More on Berman

Dear AFRO:

I am in complete agreement with the remarks made by Dr. Edgar F. Berman at Morgan State College about the education of black students in this country.

My disappointment is that he did not include the black home, church, and at least state that adequate tax monies have not been provided to black schools down through the years.

It is sad indeed that local black educators and those with national stature did not note these conditions and left them for Dr. Berman to point out.

Honest self-criticism can be helpful and in time will improve the quality of education for black students.

Instead of feeling hurt and defending ourselves, the black home, school and church should make a concerted effort to improve these conditions.

Like what he said or not, Dr. Berman was not lying.

ISAIAH E. WHITE

(Ed.'s note: The write is principal of Calvert Educational Center).

Julian - Schaefer - Patterson

Dear AFRO:

The attack on Dr. Patterson's administration by Councilman Emerson Julian looks like another of a series of City Hall-planned maneuvers by Mayor William Donald Schaefer.

Mayor Schaefer has learned from last year's (August 8, 1974) attempted ouster of Dr. Patterson by his white School Board puppets not to come the same way again. This time it appears, he has to get black puppets to help do the job. A newspaper article has implied Councilman Julian speaks now since the Schaefer administration has agreed to pay for his legal fees to defend a $7-million suit filed by former City Jail Warden Hiram Schoonfield.

It is hoped the black community will not be fooled by this campaign on the part of Mayor Schaefer to get rid of the greatest superintendent Baltimore City ever had.

Anyone who cares to look objectively at Dr. Patterson's three and one half year record in Baltimore will see that he has improved almost every area of education.

He has started a system of accountability throughout the system, which, given a chance, will provide improved educational opportunities for all students.

Perhaps, if the black community would support a strong black candidate to challenge Mayor Schaefer in September Primary, he would have second thoughts about getting rid of Dr. Patterson.

DOROTHY B. SYKES

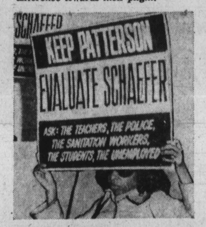
Schaefer insensitive?

Dear AFRO:

As mayor, William Donald Schaefer has maintained insensitivity and indifference to the needs of the people of Baltimore city, and particularly to its poor and black constituency.

No teacher should forget his incompetency in handling a justified teachers' strike, or his indifference towards the needs of the teachers and ajdes.

No policeman should forget his indifference towards their plight.



SIGN like this held by School Board demonstrator charge Baltimore City's Mayor Schaefer, not Superintendent Roland Patterson, should have efficiency rating.

No sanitation worker could possibly forget the mayor's arrogant denouncement of their situation.

The unemployed will always remember that he froze them out of jobs and left them hungry and standing hopelessly and helpless to the pains of economic turmoil.

No. citizen or parent concerned about public education can ever forget his underhanded, divisive, eroding tactics and comments regarding desegregation and Superintendent Patterson.

The mayor has only given minimal recognition to the black community when the problems of inequality have threatened his political shenanigans.

He appointed four new School Board members but his selections appear to be puppets who dance when he pulls the strings.

Commissioner Grover McCrea's outburst at the last School Board meeting gave the impression he is acting on orders.

Has Mayor Schaefer instructed Sachs Helm, Bob Schaefer and Scott to dance to his music too?

The mayor's sudden alignment of some blacks is just another subterfuge for political expediency. While the mayor is continuing to connive, the voters are continuing to mount. It is not Patterson — but the mayor who needs to go.

MRS. WILLIAM F. BURRELL

Salute from retarded

Dear AFRO:

Baltimore City and Baltimore County, you've done it again! In force, you turned out in droves to "ride" to the occasion to help the retarded help themselves.

Sunday, April 20, witnessed a thrilling and heartwarming outpour of community spirit throughout metropolitan Baltimore thousands of cyclists whizzing around the vast area, riding for the retarded.

Volunteers of all ages, colors and persuasions pedalled and wheeled thousands of miles over some 100 miles of officially mapped bike routes. They rode with a single goal in mind-to raise monies for the retarded citizens in our community.

During the launching, planning and execution of this tremendous event, groups of citizens, too numerous to be named, gave willingly of their time, energy and devotion.

The Baltimore Association for Retarded Citizens salutes one and all who added to the occasion. A grateful thanks to greater Baltimore!

GOERGE W. ELLIS
(President.)

Front page

Dear AFRO:

I think the story of Dr. Priest and his wife was very sad, but I don't think it should have been on the front page with pictures.

The front page should have been about the judge refusing to dismiss indictment in the Little case, in N.C. (Joanne Little)

If she (Ms. Little) was in a jail cell, it is a known fact that she couldn't get out unless he (the sheriff) let her out, and I am sure he was trying to rape her.

Letters should be sent to all preachers, congressmen and the President of the U.S.

This would be your front page headline every week for the world to see until she is free.

L. B. HICKS

'S AND YOU

Aries (March 21-April 19)—Let tomorrow be leisurely in pace. What you ask for is what you get — so be particular.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)—Social affairs are the most interesting. Be quiet and listen, as there are various fascinating stories and opposing viewpoints to investigate.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Small adjustments can be made. Progress is possible in records and accounts.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Cooperation is yours for the asking, within reason, for normal work and social contacts.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)—Keep notes for future action and do as little extra as you can get by with right now.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)—What you want and the way you choose to get it aren't the considerations. Others need a chance to get their projects underway, too.

Libra :Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Financial plans are under study. This isn't a time for major changes.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)—Creative talent brings to light many flaws to be corrected later.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)—Retire old obligations and clear work areas of scattered, useless items.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)—Your ideas are picked up in unexpected places by familiar people. Make the best of it.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)—Be generous with your compliments but conservative with your spending.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)—Factfinding is in order to bring a long neglected issue out in the open for discussion.

Register now

Now is the time to get on the books so you can vote for the next mayor and city council persons to represet YOU.

Register to vote now at Supervisors of Elections, People's Court Building, Fayette and Gay Sts. Office open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Applications are also available at all Enoch Pratt Libraries, all Urban Services Agency offices and all major department stores downtown and in the outlying areas.

Next primary election for Mayor and City Council is Sept. 9, 1975. Deadline for new voters to register is August 11, 1975. May 8, 1975 is deadline to change your party affiliation.

Cat's eyes

By Ginger Love

In cat's eyes you can see everything and nothing
You can see mystery and friendliness
A passion to love and to hate.
The instinct to kill and the warmth to love its young
The radiant beauty color that it holds
And the blackness it conceals
Nothing in the world is so great a gift
than to understand the cat's eyes.

(Ed.'s note: The writer is a 13-year-old eighth grade pupil at Old Court Junior High)

Smile

At Gulfport, Miss., the post office unhesitatingly and accurately delivered a letter addressed: "Downtown Furniture Store, Run by Two Brothers Who Look Alike, Across Street from Dime Store, Appliance Store at one End of Street, Dry Goods Store at Other."

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 50, between the hours 9 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. and talk in person to AFRO-Line service.

Your report will get prompt attention by top management of the AFRO it 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: People throw trash on the lawn and in the back yard of the vacant house next to mine. To keep my place looking half way decent and to prevent the trash from blowing on to my property, I have cleaned up and placed the trash in the alley. All I am asking is to have it removed. I have tried countless times without results.

ANSWER: AFRO-LINE called the Northwest Sanitation office, 396-6070 and was assured that this would be taken care of. Please let us know if you have been satisfied.

QUESTION: About two months ago I made a deposit with a local realtor to rent a house.

The plumbing was faulty and other repairs were needed. I was told that I could move in on the weekend.

The house is still not complete and I have called repeatedly to have my deposit refunded because I am no longer interested in renting the house. Each time I call, the manager is not there, and he doesn't return my calls.

Can you please help me? I need the money in order to see about getting another house. — Mrs. D. T.

ANSWER: The manager told AFRO-Line — the house is now ready. All you need do is call him and make an appointment to see him. Let AFRO-Line know if you fail to get relief.

QUESTION: I took my shoe to a local shoe shop to have it repaired. Since then I have misplaced my ticket. When I went to claim my shoe I was treated like a criminal. The police were even called because I told them I was going to wait until they found my shoe. There are no signs to say that they are not responsible for merchandise if the ticket is lost. Don't you think I was treated unfairly? — J. D.

ANSWER: The manager of the store told AFRO-Line that every attempt was made that day and each day since to locate the shoe. The manager explained it is very difficult because you were not sure of the date or the cost of repairs which would aid them in their search.

AFRO-Line is advised you will be notified as soon as your shoe is located.

Where to call

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

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

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; oil furnace check, 396-4429.

EMERGENCY housing, heating or light, 234-2412; after 5 p.m. and weekends, 234-2172.

CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION — 383-3700.

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

WELFARE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION — 233-4706.

INFORMATION — City Jail, 396-5211; transit and traffic, 396-3048; drug abuse counseling, 396-2726; job, 383-5468; legal aid, 539-5340; rumor control, 837-1188; rape center, 366-RAPE; pension reform, 962-3914.

MAYOR'S STATION — Govans, 396-6084; Greater Homewood, 396-6080; Northwest, 396-0024; Steuart Hill, 396-0207.

Mr. Bumble prayer

Dear Father. Please help us to see ourselves as others see us. Amen. (This week's prayer suggested by Mrs. Ruth E. Allen, Lakeview Towers Apts.)

(This week's prayer suggested by W. J. Davis of N. Ellwood Ave.)

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

tell it to Jan

Dear Jan:

I am 20 years old, and my baby's father is 32. The problem is that I don't think he knows that he's her father. When I found out I was expecting, he was out of town.

When I was six months, he came back. I told him I was expecting but did not tell him he was the father. He is very good to our baby, and I love him with all my heart. Now I wish I had told him the truth.

Should I tell him the truth like I want to or do you think it's too late? He wants me to marry him, so I know he loves the baby and me.

Puzzled

Dear Puzzled:

For Heaven's sake, tell him. What are you waiting for? Tell him what you told me. If he loves you, he'll understand why you lied in the first place.

Dear Jan:

I am 12-years-old and go with this boy 12, but I don't know if he goes with me. My friend thinks I go with the boy she likes, but I don't. How old do you think I should be when I start asking him over to my house?

Worried

Dear Worried:

Have a heart to heart talk with your mother about family rules for dating. You are about ready for group activities, double dating.

Only your mother can say when you are ready for one-on-one dating.

Dear Jan:

I am 14 and this boy that I like very much asked me to make love to him. I couldn't say anything because he asks me that all the time. This time he acted really serious. What do I tell him.

Scared

Dear Scared:

Tell him "no" and mean it. He'll respect you if you are firm.

Dear Jan:

I am 16 and there's a girl I like very much. We went together twice and I want her to be my girl friend again. Now she's playing hard to get. How can I get her back?

C.K.

Dear C. K.:

Keep on trying. You've been fickle twice and she knows you will be again. Chances are, she won't bet on you again.