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

# OPINION

Baltimore Afro-American

FOUNDED Aug., 12, 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1840-1922. Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO-AMERICAN Co., of Baltimore City Inc.

May we let our light so shine that it will illuminate that which is good and beautiful and magnify our Father which is in Heaven. CARL MURPHY (1889-1967) Editor-Publisher (1922-1967)

A-4 JULY 26, 1975

## School Board has a job

Dr. John L. Crew, selected last week as interim superintendent, has a tough assignment ahead of him.

He deserves the support of the entire community, particularly the School Board, as he tackles the awesome task of shuffling secondary school youngsters under the desegregation zoning plan effective this September.

As right-hand man to ousted Superintendent Roland N. Patterson, Dr. Crew was responsible for helping to design the HEW-mandated program.

Until his promotion, he was associate superintendent of planning, research and development.

He has been on the Patterson team which designed and implemented the decentralization program which has won national recognition for Baltimore schools.

And, he has been on the front line as his former boss struggled with a hand-picked board which too often appeared more intent on 'getting' the superintendent than on providing quality education for all children.

Unless the School Board discontinues its past devious practices of meddling in administrative matters, including supervising regional offices; unless it ceases and desists its irresponsible statements and gives the educator it hires the freedom to operate on a professional level, Interim Superintendent Crew is doomed from the outset.

A black majority school board which is not sensitive to the 'game' some city politicians play to satisfy their selfish motives, can be a thorn in Interim Superintendent Crew's side, and he'll fail too.

The Rice Citizens' Committee evaluation of the present nine-member school board was released last month.

It found the Board "well below adequate" in performance in five of six categories — relationship to instructional program, to financial management, to staff and personnel, to community relationships and relationship with superintendent. On a 46-rating scale, the board ranked 31 points "below" or "well below adequate."

Only in the area of board meetings did the board receive an "adequate" mark.

The Rice commission's recommendations to Mayor Schaefer to replace the board went unheeded.

But, as it begins a new era, and goes about the search for a permanent superintendent and answers the legal claims of former superintendent Patterson, the School Board might examine its own past failures.

It can begin by reading this recommendation on page C4 of the Rice report: "The School Board has been indifferent toward community interest of parents, students, school personnel, citizens and taxpayers of Baltimore City and is suspected of serving political, personal or hidden interests."

To help solve this and other problems, the commission suggests on Page D1: "The Board should develop an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect and cooperation with any superintendent and promote by its actions and policies and responses self respect and credibility . . ."

## August 11 is deadline

There are just 20 days between now and August 11. This is the deadline by which persons who would vote in the September 9 Primary must be registered

Baltimore voters who want to help to decide who the next mayor of Baltimore City will be and who will be president of the City Council, the Comptroller and members of the City Council must be on the books.

Not too many years ago, the AFRO and other organizations were campaigning for supplemental registration places convenient to the population.

Today, we do not have that problem. You can register by mail or at many public buildings including department stores, libraries, Urban Service Agencies and this weekend in the Cherry Hill Shopping Center from 12 to 3 Woman Power, Inc. is conducting Register to Vote drives.

Persons who must register are those who have not voted in the last 3 years; those who will be 18 years old by November 4, 1975; those who are newcomers to Baltimore; and those who have changed their names or addresses.

A city like Baltimore with its complex problems, some of which are outlined in our comments above, ought to have large participation at the polls.

It's not enough to sit at home and complain about injustices, the job now is to get on the books and after that to vote FOR those who believe in the democratic way of life and in sharing positions of power in city government with their blackneighbors.

## Judgeships

Gov. Mandel has another opportunity to improve the racial picture on the Baltimore Supreme Bench. Two vacancies now exist.

One was created when the last legislature increased from 21 to 22 the number of judges authorized to sit on the city's highest court. The other comes with the retirement on August 31, of Chief Judge Dulany Foster, whose term would have expired in November.

The Supreme Bench means those judges who preside over all Baltimore city courts of record. These include, Superior Court of Baltimore, the Court of Common Pleas, the Baltimore City Courts, Circuit Courts and Criminal courts.

## AFRO credo

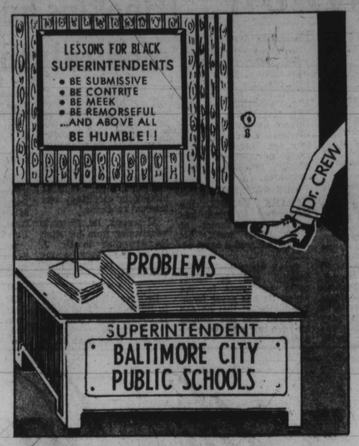
A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God and in the present generation. It must always ask itself—

- Whether it has kept faith with the common people:
- Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are presented and their future assured:
- Whether it is fighting to get rid of slums, to provide jobs for everybody:
- Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and condemn injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

DECEMBER 24, 1920)

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

## Wall sign may tell biggest problem




## Washington — by parren j. mitchell

## Few black employees on Congress payroll

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

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has just released its report on The Federal Civil Rights Enforcement Effort - 1974, entitled, Volume V, To Eliminate Employment Discrimination, the report is almost 700 pages long.

In its letter of transmittal to the White House, the commissioners state:

"We have concluded in this report that although there has been progress in the last decade, the Federal effort to end employment discrimination based upon sex, race and ethnicity is fundamentally inadequate.

"It suffers from a number of important deficiencies including lack of overall leadership and direction, the diffusion of responsibility to a number of agencies, the existence of inconsistent policies and standards;

"And the absence of joint investigative or enforcement strategies, and the failure of the agencies covered in this report to develop strong compliance programs."

Regrettably, the U.S. Congress was not covered in the report. The Congress has a miserable record on the employment of blacks.

Black citizens, who are employed on Capitol Hill are concentrated, in the lowest salaried jobs, as cafeteria workers, custodians, mail room operators, elevator operators, etc.

The real crusher comes when one examines the staffs of the various committees of the U.S. House of Representatives.

The pattern of exclusion is apparent and appalling.

Preliminary data collected by the Congressional Black Caucus reveals a dismal picture of black staff members on House Committees.

Of 24 committees, 6 have no black professional or clerical workers. They are Agriculture, Interstate and Foreign Commerce, Merchant Marine and Fisheries, Rules, Science and Technology and Standards of Official Conduct.

And, 14 other committees have token black persons absent ranging from 1 to 3, but no professionals.

These include, Ways and Means (3), Veterans Affairs (1), Small Business (1), Public Works and Transportation (2), Interior and Insular Affairs, (2), House Administration, (1), Equal Opportunity, (1), Labor Standards, (1).

And, Appropriations, (1); Armed Services, (1); Banking and Currency, (2); Budget, (2); Foreign Affairs, (); Veteran Affairs, (1).

The best picture of all, and it is still token, is the District of Columbia Committee which has 8 professionals and 4 clerical black employees.

Judiciary has 9, 3 professional and 6 clerical.

Next in line is Education and Labor with 2 professionals and 4 clerical.

Two committees have 4 black employees — Government Operation, 2 professionals and 2 clericals; and Post Office and Civil Service, with 1 professional and 3 clerical.

How can we expect that the House of Representative will force the various agencies to eliminate discrimination in employment when it maintains this pattern of discrimination!

On the very day the report was issued, the House Banking, Currency and Housing Committee was marking up H. R. 8731, a bill to amend and extend the Council on Wage and Price Stability.

One section of the measure would have created three super-grade positions.

In response to my questions directed to the Counsel for the Agency, it was revealed that there are a total of 41 positions in the agency, 26 such positions being professional slots.

Of the 26 professional positions only one, (1) is held by a black.

I spoke in favor of an amendment to deny the agency the three additional positions in the agency, 26 such positions

The amendment was defeated by the Committee.

The agency will get the three additional positions.

In all likelihood, the three super-grade slots will be filled by whites — with the approval of the Congress, racial discrimination continues in employment.

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

## Let hope spring eternal

Dog days are destined to fall upon us in August, as the locust's grating clatter ushers in more humidity and heat — typical Baltimore weather — that by now we should expect, but never do.

With August also comes the threat of more upheaval over busing to achieve integration in a mostly black Baltimore public school system.

The dismal disappointment, shock and dismay over those days of Inquisition that occurred in July, abruptly unseating the finest school superintendent we have ever had; the utter ignorance and programmed destruction engineered by a puppet school board; the conviction and sentencing of Paul L. Chester; the growing rate of unemployment among black people in the inner city, show us life at its perilous worst.

In addition, just a peek at our weekly tape when we market makes our eyebrows freeze in suspension, as we shell out more money for less food.

At the same time, President Ford, in his "infinite wisdom," threatens to veto oil price roll-backs, flaunting his power over Congress, and making us pay more for gas, heating oil, utilities, while the fuel trusts roll in stupendous profits.

Floods, earthquakes, wheat mold, root damage to corn and crops, tidal waves, ticks and enormous oil slicks sound vaguely familiar. Dog days indeed.

Rather, a forecast of doom, like the time when a man called Moses turned around the Pharoah to let his people go.

Yet, despite all these catastrophes, it is times like these as we read our mail and see campaign headquarters springing up, political activity accelerating toward even another September Primary, that we realize black folks have plenty of heart, determination and will to continue fighting back.

At least the black political candidates have monumental examples in the manliness and integrity of Roland N. Patterson; the stubborn intelligence of Larry Gibson and Curtis Lee; the brute courage of Judge Joseph C. Howard; the legislative acumen of Congressman Parren J. Mitchell; the thundering exhortations of the Rev.Mr.Vernon Dobson.

And to some of us who are punch drunk from bad news coming at us from every direction, maybe we ought to take time out to contribute money, (even as tight as it is), knock on a few doors, make some phone calls for this year's candidates. And at the same time, expose and defeat the Judases.

Putting the right ones in, few as they may be, is our only choice.

We must make it count so that some of this chaos will be turned into a chemistry that will transform the human spirit and promise better days for us all.

It is at this precise moment in history that we must direct our energies and passions toward positive paths that will bear fruit.

Let hope spring eternal in our breasts. Without hope we shall not survive.

## Now and then — by g. james fleming

## Ups and downs strike political Baltimore

Ups and downs, losses and gains, have been the experience of political Baltimore during the past several months — with the scales weighted on the loss side, most people would say.

But, there is much on the gain side, also, and there are lessons to learn which should be valuable for the future.

The black community should have learned a great deal already from the defeat of Milton B. Allen in his race for a second term as state's attorney for Baltimore City.

The lesson is that it takes solid unity among blacks, and it takes a more than usual turnout of black voters to insure the election of a black candidate in a citywide election.

In most instances, the lessons learned should be that, while there is a place for hatefulness and madness in public affairs, what is more needed than these is smartness.

The late Congressman William L. Dawson, some years ago, counseled his Chicago followers, "Don't get mad, get smart."

The defeat of Milton Allen, the ouster of Ronald N. Patterson, a city superintendent of schools, and the guilty finding against Clerk of Court Paul L. Chester do not spell "end."

Allen, or his political heirs, will be heard from again; Dr. Patterson will win back his position in court or will move on to prove himself as an innovative educator in other places; Paul Chester has much to bet on in his appeals and, at least, may return to teaching.

In another time, and in many other lands, if a person such as any of the aforementioned, had once "lost out" in an election or on a job, he or she would be "through" forever, so far as a future professional or political life were concerned.

It is true in the United States, and more true than ever for black people that we can also imitate and believe in the old Brooklyn Dodgers' slogan, "Wait 'Til Next Time."

Although there will be some oratory against "racism," there is also some gain, rather than loss, in the fact that there are levels of appeal which, in the past, have rendered justice evenhandedly, and which seem inclined, if not destined, so to do again — although not everyone before the bar of justice will always leave it feeling that justice has been done to him.

One cannot overlook, either, that where any black steps down, there is a substantial likelihood that he or she will be replaced by another black, in the long run, if not in the short.

In the instant cases, Paul Chester has been succeeded by another black Baltimorean and his deputy clerk, and Dr. Patterson's acting successor is also black and one of his own close and loyal assistants.

In another four years, the city will have another black state's attorney, and there will be more judges on all levels, and there will be a black comptroller, and a black mayor.

These are the directions in which the hand of history seems to be pointing.

Politics is a struggle for power, however, so far as contending groups and factions are concerned.

No group can reap political gains by cursing alone, or hating alone; nor by expecting gifts and recognitions from those who possess them.

In a city such as Baltimore, there are tools and weapons to use, chiefly the vote, organization, brains and money.

The place to be used for coalition, for not frightening away those willing to join hands with their black fellow-citizens to build a better city, a city not only of bricks and steel, but also of flesh, blood and spirit.

There is a lesson, also, in the afterthought that one of the signs of political ascendency is that, "Sometimes we win and sometimes we lose."

## The Devil

By Ginger Love

The devil is in all of us.
Not our inner self but our pockets,
purses, and wallets.
It has pictures of presidents, leaves,
and eagle.
Why must man bring God's
creatures into the devil.
He teaches man to steal and kill for
him.
To love the devil more than any
other thing.
He destroys men into starving
creatures,
And others into mean, greedy
demons.
Yes, the devil is here and it
probably always will be,
As long as man still lives.

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

## Ramsey and Hartman figured in historic 1955 rights case

In researching AFRO files for the Dr. Lillie M. Jackson obituary, we came across an interesting item.

In 1955, the Baltimore NAACP, under Dr. Jackson's leadership, was battling in the courts to remove racial barriers in public places.

It had already spent five years in federal courts, seeking to open public recreation and bathing beach facilities to all.

The Fourth United Circuit Court of Appeals (Chief Judge John J. Parker, Judges Armstead Dobbie and Morris A. Soper), gave the NAACP a victory. The Court against opening public beaches, Md.'s Federal Judge Roszel Thomsen "in error" for ruling to continue separate but equal facilities for the races.

Black citizens were joyful and prepared to implement the order and relax at Ft. Smallwood, Sandy Point and other public places. But there was more delay. The city of Baltimore and the state of Maryland appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

MR. RAMSEY

MR. HARTMAN

So it was not until Nov. 7, 1955 that the nation's highest court acted. An AFRO story at the time noted, "Separate but equal is out window . . . we swim at public beaches."

Baltimore NAACP President Dr. Jackson observed at the time, "God is good. The whole nation will benefit from our humble struggles towards freedom and democracy."

What is interesting to note here is that in this historic ruling the Supreme Court used just 11 words to overturn Md.'s jim crow. Under the heading, "Nov. 7, 1955, Per Curiam" it said: "The motion to affirm is granted and the judgement is affirmed."

The AFRO at that period called this 11-word statement, "a harpoon into the mortally wounded body of segregation."

Students of civil rights struggles who desire more information might find this case listed in the Federal Register as 350 U.S. 877.

It carries this further identification:

"MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY et al., appellants, v. Robert M. DAWSON Jr., et al. No. 232. Appeal from the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

"Facts and opinion, Lonesome v. Maxwell, D.C., 123 F. Supp. 193; 4 Cir., 229 F.2d 386.

"Messrs. C. Ferdinand Sybert, Atty. Gen. of Maryland, Norman E. Ramsey, Deputy Atty. Gen. and Ambrose T. Hartman, Asst. Atty. Gen., for appellants.

"Messrs. Robert L. Carter, Thurgood Marshall and Jack Greenberg, for appellees."

Observant AFRO readers will recognize that the Messrs Ramsey and Hartman who argued before the High Court against opening public beaches are much in the news today.

Mr. Ramsey is now president of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners. Mr. Hartman is now deputy city solicitor who represented the Board in its "quit or be fired" case against ousted school superintendent Roland N. Patterson.

The above recital indicates Messrs Ramsey and Hartman are no strangers to civil rights litigation.

If, today, 15 years later, Patterson attorneys follow through their appeal of his ouster on due process grounds, they could meet again in the High Court.

## Transit

For over a year the Baltimore Region Phase II Transit Study Team has been looking at a number of transit programs to meet Baltimore's future need.

The Maryland Department of Transportation has scheduled another meeting to give citizens a chance to express their views about alternative plans for the future.

Called a Regional Citizens' meeting, it is set for 8 p.m., Thursday, July 31, at the Poly-Western High School cafeteria, Jones Falls Expressway at Coldspring Lane.

AFRO readers should note that the long range transit plan for the Baltimore Region will be the final system selected at this meeting.

Input is solicited now from all citizens, neighborhood organizations, particularly residents in the proposed areas.

"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

PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro-American

JULY 26, 1975 5

## Malpractice insurance

Dear AFRO:

This writer has used forebearance in writing these lines. However, it appears that the thoughts contained in them will not reach your readers otherwise.

As you know, the medical profession is caught up in the many faceted problem of liability (malpractice) insurance, a problem of dreadful concern to each of your readers, much as it concerns every doctor.

It is very difficult to get the man on the street, in the field and by the swimming pool, in the classroom, or the pulpit, or hanging over the back fence, steamed up over the malpractice question.

After all, it centers about an insurance that protects the doctors and does nothing to guarantee good care to the patient, to insure the patients survival, or in any way change the course of his disease process.

It is strictly an-after-the-fact entity. It is after the fact of illness or injury, after the fact of misadventure, after the fact of litigation and even after the fact of award.

It is neither preventive medicine nor rehabilitative medicine. It is not even a tangible creature comfort associated with being ill, except that one considers the doctors comfort of safety from financial destruction by law suit.

Therefore, it is no wonder the public cannot grasp the gravity of the crisis of the spiraling malpractice award, the resultant spiraling cost of malpractice insurance, the exodus of malpractice insurance carriers from the state of Maryland, and how these things concern the public at large.

The problem always facing your physician is his capability for delivering quality care at something that approaches a reasonable cost such as salaries, equipment, gasoline, rent and protection to his family against financial catastrophe.

The cost of the last of these has been doubling year after year, until now it, for this protection, costs some doctors, as much as the average physician earned per year twenty five years ago.

It threatens to keep climbing and must, until such time as legislators see fit to address themselves firmly to the problem and revamp. The process of dealing with medical misadventure.

So usual, those who stand the chance of greatest loss are the poor, and the black and the unemployed, those who already have a shortened life span due to disease and accident.

It is questionable how much longer inner city doctors will be able to continue to treat the medicaid patients and generate enough revenue to pay malpractice premiums.

That is the simple undergirding fact. This seems to herald the end to individual private patient-care and the return to bench medicine and waiting in clinics from sunrise to sunset.

Who needs that and the hat-in-hand countenance that goes with it.

Since the real over-riding problem, is not insurance but the stranguating, capricious, and often arbitrary principles of "malpractice," there is a better way.

There is a way that gives redress of grievance against a doctor, that insures that two people sustaining the same injury will not obtain radically different awards, depending on the whims of a confused jury, a way which will allow less cost to carriers and reasonable protection to your doctor.

It should be demanded that legislators find that way and enact it promptly.

While liability insurance in no way, except through peace of mind, enhances your doctor's ability to select the right pill or operation for you, while it will not increase your physician's skill or interest, it now threatens to strangle the practice of medicine in this state by strangling the financial survival of the person whose unfettered mind can deliver those things.

Thus, it threatens the patient intensely.

This writer thought you would like that brought into focus. Tell your legislator you are aware.

ERNEST O. BROWN, M.D.

## Pratt head retires

Dear AFRO:

As I approach my last day at the Library before retirement, I want to acknowledge the good coverage, understanding, and courtesies the AFRO-American through its reporters and editors has extended to the Library.

You have informed the public of library events and activities, you have supported us in our efforts to improve services, and you have occasionally and understandably subjected us to constructive criticism.

I want to offer my thanks to you and all of your staff for all these things. And I feel sure the AFRO will continue to be friendly to the library, as I expect to continue to be one of your readers.

EDWIN CASTAGNA
(Director, Enoch Pratt Library)

## Dr. Crew and Board

Dear AFRO:

I was compelled to write this in response to an editorial in the Sunday Sun (July 20, 1975).

The editorial on the selection of Dr. John L. Crew Sr. as interim superintendent is insidious.

A 'black majority School board' is one thing and insignificant. A black majority school board comprised of knowledgeable, informed, independent thinkers, who are concerned about the quality of education and educators is something else, and significant.

The latter description is the kind of board we need, but do not have.

To cite Dr. Crew's appointment as proof that racial motivation was absent in the dismissal of Dr. Patterson is absurd. Even the coverage of the hearings by the dailies was partial and racially motivated. They are a part of the conspiracy.

HILDA B. WALLACE

## Edmondson health site

Woman Power, Inc. is requesting that the city officials and the physicians take whatever steps necessary to keep the free clinics operating in the Village Medical Center.

VERA LE CATO
Executive Director
Victorine Q. Adams
Research Director
Woman Power, Inc.

## Dr. Jackson

Dear AFRO:

If there was one word that characterized Dr. Lillie Jackson, it has to be "guts." She had a lot of hard bark on her that we call "rawcourage" and it was this virtue that permitted Dr. Jackson an extension of time on this earth.

This part of her legacy she passes along especially to those who have two strikes on them who may be coming up to bat for the last time.

To the young, indeed to each of us, she leaves a message to stand tall like a mighty oak as firm as tetons no matter the odds. It is a shallow victory for the purple Rider Dr. Lillie Jackson teased and cheated death many times.

She walked with history. While she was still with us she tracked the sands of time with glory while the breath of life was still in her. She was the salt of the earth.

We will miss Mrs. Lillie Jackson. Baltimore is a better city because Dr. Jackson lived here. Her illustrious shoes are too big to fill.

I remember her saying to me a dozen years or so ago, "don't let nobody turn you around, believe we can overcome."

I believe we shall overcome because Dr. Jackson told me so.

LARRY YOUNG

## Make it official

The Writer's name and address must be included in all Letters to the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN.

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

All letters MUST be signed.

The AFRO reserves the right to edit all letters.

## Please help keep PIP alive

Alcoholism is now recognized as one of the nation's major health problems. Recent figures estimate 90,000 alcoholics in Baltimore, about 9,000 of whom are homeless.

Considering the inevitable deterioration in all aspects of the life style of an untreated alcoholic, one could safely predict a sweeping increase to the rolls of the homeless alcoholics in the streets of Baltimore.

Young people, teenagers and younger, are switching from drugs to the more socially acceptable way of getting their kicks—drinking.

The need for more and better treatment facilities can no longer be ignored.

The Public Inebriate Program, known as PIP, has been in operation since 1972.

It has served the indigent, homeless alcoholic by providing counseling, medical attention, residential treatment and personal attention in their goal of accepting and assisting this population in the most humane and professional way possible.

Community facilities and social service agencies have relied heavily on being able to refer their homeless alcoholic clients to PIP for detoxification, medical evaluation and further referral to treatment programs.

PIP has been reaching over 600 alcoholics a month, of whom approximately 120 persons have been treated and served in primary detoxification per month.

Up until May 31, 1975, PIP received federal funds (NIAAA), and planned on having the state take over at the expiration of this three-year period.

However, funding possibilities by the state offer little encouragement, since recent legislative action cut out one cool million from the original budget of $1.7 million as requested by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for the coming year.

This drastic cut, made in the good intention of saving the state money, was the result of misinterpretation of the possibility of having federal funds replace state funds for Maryland programs.

But the result is that the DHMH is hamstrung for funding its own programs and has nothing to offer to PIP.

With state hospitals closing out or reducing their number of beds for alcoholics, the closing down of PIP will present a catastrophic legacy to the already over-burdened hospital emergency rooms.

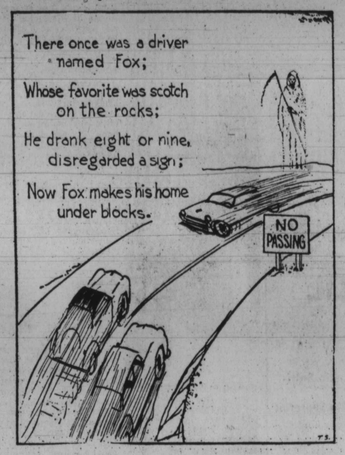
We cannot turn our backs on this urgent problem. PIP hopes to be able to get licensing as an alcoholic treatment facility, thus making third party payments possible.

The help of supplementary funds, it is anticipated, could probably enable them to continue for a year, at which time they hope to be self-supporting.

An emergency grant would keep PIP active. Everyone concerned is requested to write to Governor Mandel, asking him to look into this crisis. It is truly an urgend need.

(Mrs.) ELIZABETH W. WELLS
Officer of the Board of
Project PLEASE

## Don't join the dead along the road




## If YOU ask ME — by bettye moss

What a tragedy!—The early Monday morning fire at 536 Laurens St., where six innocent persons died.

They didn't have a chance when that Molotov cocktail exploded while they were asleep . . . This sick society! Dead are members of the Gwynn family, ages 2 to 18.

Surviving are a 2-month-old infant, youngsters, 17, 20, 14, 11, 9 and 2.

YOU can help. Here is where you may take food, clothing, furniture and cash contributions to help them get back on their feet.

Mt. Olive Freewill Baptist Church, Fremont and Saratoga, and The Williams Health Center at 1515 W. North Ave.

The Williams Health Clinic states that the clothing contributions have been "overwhelming" and they are three days behind in their pickups.

The clinic however, is still accepting contributions to enable the victims to purchase furniture and food.

Dear Jan:

Just a few lines to say help me with my problem. The boy I used to go with tells me that we can make it again. I don't know if I should take him back. I love him and he loves me and I know that this is true because the way he treats me.

WANTS TO

Dear Wants To:

If you love him and he loves you, take him back. Remember all the things you used to fight about and avoid making the same mistakes.

Dear Jan:

My husband and I have been married two years. We are both 25. Last week, he said he had to go on a trip for his job. He works with a trucking firm. He was gone a whole week and I did not hear from him. Chicago is not that too far away he couldn't have called home.

When he returned home I asked him how come and he gave me some vague answer about being too busy. That didn't sound right to me. Am I suspicious? Jealous? Do I have grounds to worry? he is worried.

UNDECIDED

Dear Undecided:

You will probably never know. Some men are good husbands but thoughtless about keeping in touch. It's only when the shoe is on the other foot. If your marriage has worked well so far, don't get too upset. Try and make the best of it. Next time, suggest he take you along, because it's pretty lonesome when you don't see him or even hear from him.

## August 11

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

Next primary election is Sept. 9, 1975. Deadline for new voters to register is August 11, 1975.

Dr. John L. (for Larry) Crew Sr., the interim superintendent of Baltimore city schools, moves up from post as associate superintendent of research, planning and evaluation.

He was in Army reserve camp in Petersburg, Va., last Thursday when he received official word he would succeed his former boss, Dr. Roland N. Patterson. (He was an Army lieutenant in the Korean conflict.)

Dr. Crew, 48, is a native of Westminster, S.C., where he finished high school. He is a 1955 graduate of Morgan State College, now University, and earned his master's at New York University and his doctorate at the University of Md.

He began his teaching career in the Baltimore city schools as a psychology tester and then went with the State Department of Education as director of planning evaluation.

He held that post until 1969, when he returned to the Baltimore city schools as director of pupil personnel.

Dr. Crew and his wife, the former Brookzie Wilks of Westminster, S.C., reside on Ellamont Rd. in the Ashburton section in northwest Baltimore.

They have two children who attend Mt. Washington Elementary School, John Larry Jr., 10; and Kimberly, 7. The family attends Grace Presbyterian Church.

The Dan Cunninghams (Gwen), are here from Charlotte, N.C., visiting her brother, Dr. James S. Davidson. It was at his home on Saides that they entertained a number of townfolk.

People doing nice things for others: Members of St. James Episcopal Church who gave that Friday evening crab feast for their guest priest, Father Lionel Bowen, and Mrs. Bowen (Grace).

They are here from Peal, England, while St. James minister, Father Donald O. Wilson is guest preacher at his parish.

Cuff notes: It was the Bowens first experience with live crabs, seeing them steamed and learning to eat them.

The event was at the Earl Andersons' Dorchester Rd. home. Other hostesses were Carolyn Willis, Constance Neal, Beulah Fogle, and Elizabeth Phillips.

More people doing nice things: When the Northwest Bridge Club holds its luncheon this Saturday at Highfield House, it will have a double purpose.

It will be a bon voyage for member Jesse Richardson, the retired Red Cross executive. She is leaving to make her home in Spokane, Washington.

In the mailbag: I hope you will publish this letter. Some of the meanest teenagers I know are those two—one tall, one short—who are terrorizing elderly people in the area of the 1100 block Lafayette, and on nearby Myrtle and Argyle Aves.

Here is the way they operate. They walk up and down and spot the elderly citizens, then they ask someone in the block their name and then they go to the people and call them by name and ask for a drink of water.

The poor elderly people, thinking they are friends, let them in the house and then they rob the house, and in one case beat the innocent people. I think these are the meanest people in the world.

This column's answer: No doubt about it . . . they certainly are among the meanest. This column suggests interested residents get full descriptions of these culprits, date and time of incidents and refer all info to your local police station. Any information you supply will be held in strict confidence.

## STARS AND YOU

ARIES (March 21 — April 19): You may get into a muddle and have too full a program. Emotional upsets. Color, red.

TAURUS (April 20 — May 20): You can make bigger projects — especially in connection with your home. Color, orange.

GEMINI (May 21 — June 20): Favorable circumstances — you can make more personal plans. Much understanding with friends. color, black.

CANCER (June 21 — July 20): A pleasant day. Social gatherings will bring much personal success. Color, yellow.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 — Sept. 22): Prospects improve for the near future. Important money questions can be solved. Color, brown.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 — Oct. 22): Overcome your indolence and get on with your work. Emotional difficulties clear up. Color, purple.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 — Nov. 21): Excellent prospects. Your money crisis will soon be overcome — but don't overspend. Pleasant private meetings. Color, white.

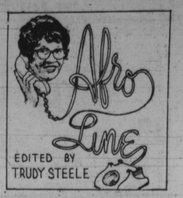
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 — Dec. 21): Relax today after a period of excitement. Arrange something with friends and partner. Color, brown.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 — Jan. 19): Good day for anything you can do on your own — influences make you belligerent. Color, blue.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 — Feb. 18): Brilliant prospects — everything will go according to plan and there will be a wonderful surprise. Color, pink.

PISCES (Feb. 19 — Mar. 20): Get on with your work — your friends appreciate you and make useful suggestions. Color, god.

82 YEARS AGO—"The Interests of the Afro-American population of Baltimore are identical and any faction of the race which fosters strife, to gratify its own selfish ambition, should be classed with the enemy." (From the AFRO-AMERICAN, April, 1893)




AFRO-Line is an effective AFRO community service to help you solve problems, whatever they may be.

All you have i do is write a post card to AFRO-Line, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore Md. in addition to stating the question you wanted 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 728-8206, Extension 64 or 30, between the hours 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. and talk in person with AFRO-Line service.

Your report will get prompt attention by top management.

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

QUESTION: Why is it, even though the laws in the U.S. is Keep to the Right, motorists who approach an intersection insist on going to their left when making a left turn?

It forces the person facing them to also go to his left thereby hindering his view from approaching traffic. — S.A.

ANSWER: A spokesman in the Department of Motor Vehicles told AFRO-Line that this is very poor driving. All drivers are supposed to keep to their right when making a turn.

Before power steering, a car's back wheels would hit a curb when attempting to make a turn, but now you can turn almost on a button.

The law says you must have your car under control at all times, so you must watch out for the guy who doesn't drive properly.

Of course when they have an accident, they are charged.

That's why we have defensive driving courses so that you can watch out for these people who do not drive properly. There are hundreds of them.

Cars are built now to allow you to turn without swining around. That is INCORRECT driving.

QUESTION: For the past several weeks, I have been out of work and job-hunting. I have promises of a job in the next month, but am concerned whether the expenses I have incurred will be tax deductible? J. R.

ANSWER: We talked with Internal Revenue Service. A spokesman advised AFRO Line you're in luck. A recent ruling provides expenses directly incurred in seeking new employment are tax deductible under certain circumstances. (Previously, employment agency fees paid only after actually obtaining a job were deductible.)

Among the deductible costs of a job search are counseling and employment agency fees, resume preparation, mailing and postage.

In addition, reasonable travel and out-of-town food and lodging expenses are now deductible.

However, IRS told AFRO Line that such job hunting expenses for a trade or business different from the one in which you previously worked are not deductible.

If it has been some time since you worked in the field in which you are presently looking for a job, the IRS may disallow your expense deductions. Furthermore, people entering the labor market for the first time may not deduct their costs for a job search.

WHERE TO CALL

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

CONSUMER PROTECTION — for questionable business practices — 383-3796.

CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND — Resulting from robberies or assaults — 539-5340.

DISASTERS — fires, floods, hurricanes — 467-6005.

EMERGENCY — Housing, heating, light — 234-2172 or 685-5525 — after 6 p.m. and weekends, 396-7726, 396-2883.

HOT LINE — 539-5151 for abandoned vehicles, dirty yards, garbage collections, clogged sewers, street repairs, bulky trash pickup.

INFORMATION — City Jail, 396-5211; Transit and Traffic, 396-3049; Drug Abuse Counseling, 396-2720; Job, 383-5468; Legal Aid, 539-5340; Rumor Control, 837-1188; Rape Center, 366-RAPE; Pension Reform, 962-3914.

MAYOR'S STATIONS — Govans, 396-4084; Greater Homewood, 396-4088; Northwest, 396-6207; Stuart Hill, 396-5907.

POLICE — emergency, 222-3333; Community Relations, 396-2710.

FIRES — 685-1313.

SERVICE — Ambulance, 396-1111; Animal Removal, 396-0218; Defective Sidewalk, 396-3168; Food Stamps, 234-2751, 234-2413; Oil Furnace Check, 396-4429; Rats, 396-4415.

WELFARE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION — 223-4700.

## Smile

Even the government may be in financial trouble — a friend claims he just got a tax-refund check with the note: "Please don't deposit until Tuesday."

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