I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed:
"We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal."

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. — 1929-1968.

OPINION

Baltimore Afro-American

FOUNDED Aug. 13, 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1846-1922. 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)

Phone service bias

Black Baltimoreans can be assured of two things relative to the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company's redlining practice.

Most of the redlined districts are in black communities and "emergency" service at night in one of them is tough to get.

Another thing, the AFRO bets the problem with getting servicemen to work the redlined districts results in part from a low percentage of the repairmen employed by the telephone company being black.

This latest example of second-class service for black Baltimoreans, who don't get second-class bills from C and P, was exposed when the Western district police station had some telephone problem over the weekend.

C and P claims it called a number of repairmen who refused to come into the district at night and work. C and P seeks to excuse itself by explaining that the station house had some telephones that were working properly.

According to the firm, a redlined district is one in which it "has had or can reasonably expect" trouble if a repairman is sent after dark.

In "emergency" situations, C and P says it will send out a repairman accompanied by an armed guard.

The "redlined" customers of C and P, representing 25 to 35 per cent of the populated area of the city—by C and P admission—should know who they are.

Many people in crime-ridden, low-income sections consider their telephone an "emergency" weapon in the case of incidents involving crime, illness, fires or other disasters.

C and P provides unequal service to Baltimore residents who pay for equal service and the AFRO wants something done about it; even if it takes a court suit by the NAACP or some other group.

Supreme Bench challenge

The Monumental Bar Association, Inc. has urged the Supreme Bench to take advantage of another opportunity to reduce the degree of racial discrimination in the courthouse.

Frankly, the two-pronged request is a mild one which deserves a positive response.

The association urges the appointment of a black chief clerk for Circuit Court No. 2, or the appointment of a white chief clerk dedicated to the hiring of a black chief deputy clerk and enforcement of an affirmative action hiring policy throughout the office.

Th lawyers have been joined in their request by the Baltimore Metropolitan Committee, a broad-based organization of spokesmen from throughout the black community.

The Monumental Bar points out that today there is only one chief clerk and deputy chief clerk of the dozen plus serving.

The resignation of John D. Hubble, who faced charges about his conduct in office, creates the opportunity for the Supreme Bench to act on this vacancy.

The association responsibly notes that under the leadership of Chief Judge Anselm Sodaro new policies have improved minority employment in these court agencies directly under supervision of the judges. This movement was spurred by a detailed study and charges of racism by Supreme Bench Judge Joseph C. Howard.

Still, the racial imbalance in the courthouse remains so pro-white, or anti-black, that the Supreme Bench will be derelict in its responsibility and stated desire to improve the situation were it to overlook this opportunity to make more needed progress.

Two key elections

Going on from last week's discussion about black voters rallying around gubernatorial and mayoralty candidates who speak to their needs, there are reasons to think that interest is being kindled.

Behind our unhappiness with the present troubled governor and mayor is the fact that they have short-changed black citizens in a contemptible way. Both in the area of appointments and programs they have been extreme disappointments. It is time the black community shows its disgust at the polls.

In addition, it also is time black voters remind officials elected from their own community that it's no longer acceptable for them to come seeking their support on behalf of white politicians who snub the community, or worse, rip it off, after they get in office.

In 1978 Maryland will elect another governor and in 1979 Baltimore chooses a new mayor.

As to the governor's race, a liberal Republican who will speak to our needs and promise action, would be a far better choice than most of the so-so Democrats whose names have been mentioned as possible candidates. The Carter-Ford race clearly shows the possibilities here for blacks to register their stand—with or without the cooperation of their own elected officials.

For the 1979 mayor's race, the story is that we want a better man. He can be black or white.

As things go now, black voters and black officials are allowing white leaders to slap us in the face time after time and do nothing about it but grin and hope for better days.

We can stop grinning so much and make some things happen.

The time we can't wait until the filing deadlines are past and make a choice from the available. This time we're going to see that there's a candidate among the available that we can count on, someone who'll be our kind of official.

That new money

The federal government put checks in the mail this week to help local governments provide jobs and maintain public service but in Baltimore we learn discussions are still underway about how to spend the money.

Part of the estimated $2.5 million Baltimore expected as first payment on around $6.3 million it is to get eventually will pay the salaries of school crossing guards. These important workers once were paid from another source and we think city officials could have continued them without dipping into this new money.

Passed over a veto by President Ford, the major intent of the $8.7 billion Public Works Employment Act is to create 350,000 jobs to help blunt the hardships caused by high employment.

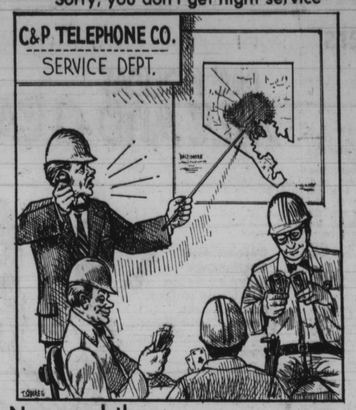
No-where in Baltimore is unemployment higher than the AFRO readership community.

When Bernard L. Berkowitz, Baltimore physical development coordinator, and other city officials, finally get out of the discussion stage on spending this new money, it is to be hoped that their decisions reflect full awareness of the intent of the funds and the areas of greatest unemployment hardship.

Smile

Lost and Found: Wallet - kindly return all hard to replace items—driver's license and pictures of Hamilton, Lincoln, Washington and Jackson.

Sorry, you don't get night service



Washington report

Increasing the pressure to gain economic parity

By Parren J. Mitchell
(Mr. Mitchell represents Maryland's 7th Congressional District in the House of Representatives.)

If minority groups are ever to gain parity at the local, state and national levels, it is tremendously important that access be provided for participation in both on-going and new economic development projects.

Participation must come in the way of obtaining meaningful work contracts and subcontracts which make up the heart of any major "job to be done."

As I have attempted to point out many times, the formula for a better, more humane quality of life for minorities, the poor and the working poor is simple:

A. contracts plus subcontracts equal jobs;

B. jobs equal income, and;

C. income equals reduce dependence on certain government programs plus better housing, plus reduced crime, plus increased tax revenues, plus decreased government spending, plus decreased income taxes for the average citizen, etc.

Therefore, I have been completely thrilled by the recent efforts of some local and state elected officials, supported by sensitive and committed business and community organizations, who have demanded that minority businesses receive an adequate amount of the contracts and subcontracts available as a result of the construction of the first phase of the Baltimore Subway.

Carrying the banner of "meaningful minority participation" from the Maryland General Assembly to the State Board of Public Works has been State Senator Robert (Bob) Douglass, chairman of the State Legislature's Black Caucus.

Largely because of the tireless work of Senator Douglass, minority businesses will now receive a full 10 per cent or $4.17 million of the total $41 million to be allocated for the initial phase or work.

In addition to words of appreciation to Senator Douglass, the entire Baltimore minority community certainly owes a debt of gratitude to groups such as the Baltimore Council for Equal Business Opportunity (C.E.B.O.), Samuel T. Daniels, director, and the Baltimore Ministerial Alliance, working through the Rev. Vernon Dobson, for providing both technical and spiritual support.

It is important to poinh out that our current victories on Baltimore and Maryland are a direct result of a national climate of increased minority participation in contractual opportunities created for the most part through the Small Business Administration's (SBA) "8 (a) Procurement Program."

Section 8 (a) of the Small Business Act of 1953 gives the SBA the authority to enter into procurement contracts with federal agencies and, in turn, subcontract the work to small businesses.

The concept of channeling contracts to small businesses through an intermediate federal agency was an emergency measure to insure that small businesses were not bypassed in wartime. SBA, however, never used the section 8 (a) authority for that purpose.

SBA has used section 8 (a) since the 1967 civil disturbances to assist socially or economically disadvantaged small businessmen in achieving a competitive position in the financial market place.

So, that it is even more important to note that the section 8 (a) program is now being challenged and resisted on the federal level by such major organizations as the National Association of Manufacturers A. Supreme Court challenge regarding the program's constitutionality may well be seen in the very near future.

As a result, for the last three days those businesses whose survival and initial growth depends on the section 8(a) program have been organizing to protect themselves.

The National Association of 8 (a) Government Contractors is meeting in Washington at the International Hotel to discuss vital issues such as the financing of 8 (a) loans and how to obtain subcontracts from prime contracts.

I have been and will continue to participate in the efforts of the National Association of 8 (a) Government Contractors. I will continue to fight for the maintenance of a national economic climate which is conducive to substantive minority participation.

I can do no less to aid strong brothers such as Senator Douglass in their efforts on the state and local levels.

Working together we can make a change.

The next stop should be a careful review and scrutiny of the contract which has been let for the construction of the Baltimore Convention Center.

Now and then ... by g. james fleming

Vernon Gray solid on Jimmy Carter

Another Marylander, high in the Jimmy Carter organization, was C. Vernon Gray, young chairman of the Political Science Department at Morgan State University. He has not been mentioned before in this column.

Dr. Gray was in charge of staff operations for the minority affairs division of the Carter campaign. He spoke in several states, answered most of the letters addressed to Carter on racial matters, ran an office dedicated to getting out the black vote for Carter, and his office was in the national Carter headquarters at 11 Colony Square, Atlanta.

But, Dr. Gray did not start at the top. He was a volunteer during the pre-primary campaign in Maryland, and was for Carter all the way. In New York, at the Democratic Convention, he saw the minority division in need of "structuring" and invited himself to organize it, from finding desks, chairs and telephones, to providing needed services for out - of - town delegates. Soon, the minorities division was a buzzing, going concern.

As a result of his volunteer activities, Dr. Gray was invited to join the Carter campaign, in two or three spots. He chose to be "national coordinator for black affairs," which would allow him to continue as a fulltime professor of political science at Morgan State, while spending long weekends in Atlanta.

For Carter, Gray travelled over 20,000 miles, speaking in 30 cities; receiving the key to the city from the mayor of Stockton, Calif. and setting up black groups for Carter-Mondale.

Where he could not go in person, he wrote hundreds of letters and lined up supporters for Carter.

"What was your principal objective," we asked the Morgan State professor. He replied:

"To dispel lots of doubts about Jimmy Carter; to show that what he championed was beneficial to blacks, the poor and other minority groups."

"Many blacks are anti-South, as are many white liberals? Dr. Gray said at another point. "But, the blacks lowest down understand Carter. They were not disturbed by his reference to 'ethnic purity' nor with his interview in Playboy."

C. VERNON GRAY

On the other hand, Dr. Gray feels that Governor Carter's endorsement by "Daddy" King (father of Martin Luther King Jr.) and by Mayor Coleman Young of Detroit, helped to clear the governor of the doubts that some blacks had.

Carter's own explanation of what he meant by "ethnic purity" and by the Playboy article "also had the force of credibility which the people could accept," according to Gray's findings.

The campaign personnel also gave support to Carter, Dr. Gray said. "On all levels, there were blacks and women, and they were not assigned just to black or women affairs."

"What can the millions of blacks who voted for Carter expect of him once he is sworn in as president?" this column inquired. "Will blacks be able to reach him?"

Gray replied:

"I have no fear that blacks will be able to reach President-elect Carter and, later, President Carter. There will be blacks in his inner circle who will be able to let him know the policy needs of blacks. I am sure we shall see blacks in more and higher positions and not only in civil rights or equal employment opportunities."

On further questioning, Dr. Gray continued:

"Moreover, President-elect Carter himself knows the part that blacks played in his election. For instance, only 45 per cent of whites in the South voted for him, while in some southern cities, as high as 95 per cent of blacks voted for him."

Vernon Gray was very much aware, however, that "other groups, besides blacks, also supported Carter and these, too, must be kept in mind by the new president."

The Morgan State professor, who mentioned something about Morgan State wherever he spoke, also made known that, "I do not believe that President Carter will, or can, solve all problems of black and poor people, but he will do more than anyone else I know. However, he will need the help of the Congress and of everyone else interested in his goals."

Dr. Gray was born in Sunderland, Calvert County, 37 years ago. He holds the B.A. degree from Morgan State; the M.A. degree from Atlanta University, and the Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts—all three degrees in political science.

Before joining the Morgan faculty in 1972, he taught at Philander Smith College, Oakland University (Mich.) and the University of Massachusetts. He was also research director of the Joint Center for Political Studies Washington.

He is married to Saydra Gray, formerly of Detroit, administrative assistant to the assistant superintendent of education, Montgomery County. Presently, she is a fellow at the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. They have two children, Angela 12, and Michael 7. They live in Columbia.

Mostly in Dr. Gray's mind is to find ways to use his Carter experiences for the benefit of his students and to continue being a teacher of political science at Morgan State.

Don't be surprised, however, if President Carter calls C. Vernon Gray to Washington.

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

Black ain't beautiful in Baltimore

This morning, a cardinal flew close to my kitchen window, while in the distance a blue jay was poised silently upon a barren branch of the old crab apple tree.

The intense play of color in that darting moment gave a shock of brightness to an otherwise dark dreary November morning and perhaps was a sudden burst of hope that all is not dark even when things appear so.

Yet the darkness in which blacks in Baltimore are ambling and stumbling unrelieved by any bright hope, is illustrated by the recent turn of events.

For example, in this muddled mass of dashed ambitions, quality leadership tossed away—like Patterson, Chester, Jennifer, Guillory, Greene—we have the parody of what white Baltimore thinks of our leaders in the person of Judge George L. Russell.

He, now for all to know, has been characterized by them as the "Tom for All Seasons" at the recent roasting he willingly endured at the hands of the Saints and Sinners.

With the words of my mother ringing in my ears—"Many a true word is said in a joke"—I felt that this event signalled the mean and hardened attitude of the white establishment who feel that it is no longer necessary to respect blacks, who have made great gains.

As if they say in unison, "We've gotten away with ridiculing them publicly, ignoring them even when their qualifications are the highest and now we can slap them a few times across the face, because we've at last compromised their leadership so skillfully that it really can't do any harm to grind all their self-respect into the dust."

Their bold racism is unchallenged as they think and say, "Who's going to fight back, demand, persuade, or pressure us anymore?"

And like any colonial rulers, they conclude, "Numbers don't matter, so long as we own the whip and snap it occasionally, but successfully."

The recent appointment of Kalman Hettleman, shrewdly done after the election, as director of the Department of Social Services, over Dr. James Chavis, a black assistant professor at the University of Maryland School of Social Work, is a case in point.

Dr. Chavis has all the qualifications and experience needed to run an agency that deals with the overwhelming problems of poor black people, but Mayor William D. Schaefer is quoted as wanting a businessman for the job.

More aptly put, a politician, who has threaded his ambition, his career, through the needle of expediency from mayoral assistant, to education commissioner, to campaign manager for Paul Sarbanes, briefly,—always popping up and piercing the fabric of political opportunism, at the right place, at the right time, to be rewarded only for his skill at confusing the issue, his alacrity, with a glib tongue, not for his ability nor his skills in the profession.

But "Buzzy", as he is known to most, knows how to follow orders and he is indeed the "honest broker" between the white and black community.

And so as black Baltimore sleeps, Mayor Schaefer, drunk with the heady power of orchestrating community groups, manipulating them, can flaunt the luxury of a $25,000 rug for the ceremonial room in the name of a new heritage for a future Baltimore that he slowly starves to death with last - hired - first - fired brinkmanship.

(Incidentally, where is that handsome Persian rug that graced the old ceremonial room? Lord knows I studied it enough while listening to the political platitudes and empty promises of days gone by. By now it would be worth a fortune.)

And to show his benevolent side, he now supports the schools as if there had been no vitriolic yesteryears, nor loggerhead confrontations over every undotted "i" and uncrossed "t"! Yet the groundwork he so magnanimously praises was in truth laid by Dr. Roland L. Patterson.

Beware black educational leadership. Hold jealously to your contracts, your tenure, for you, too, are expendable as gubernatorial fever heightens in City Hall, where the white establishment seeks other cronies to reward in preparation for the big push towards Annapolis . . . following the pattern of how governorships are made in Maryland.

And while we are learning the bitter lesson that black ain't beautiful in Baltimore, we should be counting the votes and registering the dissidents, so that these ambitions in 1978 might be doused by a flood of new irate voters who will be willing and able to throw all the rascals out!

As I looked out my window this morning, I also glimpsed the faint azure streak high among the clouds in the distance that held promise that just like the seasons, that old expression rings true: what goes around comes around.

Hopeful, all too hopeful, that finally we shall grasp the black political power unleashed for Jimmy Carter in this city, use it from now on to help ourselves and make the prophecy a reality.

AFRO Credo

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

• Whether it has kept faith with the common people;

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

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

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

DECEMBER 24, 1920)

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

"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

Vocational school proposal

Dear AFRO:

WJZ-TV in its recent series on truancy by reporter Frank Luber made the point that attendance in our technical vocational senior high school was 90 per cent or above while it was much lower in our academic senior high schools.

Luber also stated that the students in these technical vocational schools were more highly motivated than those in the academic schools because they realized that the training and skills learned offered the rewards of a job later.

I fully agree with this assessment and brought this to the attention of the Board of School Commissioner, the superintendent and his staff more than a year ago.

Over the last 40 years the record shows that 80 per cent of all high school graduates do not go to college. In spite of this knowledge, we in education have placed greater emphasis on a College Bound Curriculum which is meaningful to some 20 per cent of our students and forgot that 80 per cent who must face the world of work.

It is among this 80 per cent that we find truancy and a high dropout rate because the education provided for them is not relevant nor meaningful.

On Oct. 3, 1975, I wrote and sent to the board and superintendent a proposal "To Broaden Public Education" for students in all of our senior high schools. This proposal is an attempt to better meet the needs of all students rather than a select few.

It was recommended that each senior high school would provide a College Bound Curriculum and a Career Bound Curriculum.

On entering high school the choice of curriculum would be made by the student and his parents.

I strongly believe that once implemented, this proposal will motivate more students to achieve and reduce the truancy rate in our academic senior high schools.

Briefly stated the proposal recommended that:

1. A survey be made among the major businesses and industries in and around Baltimore to determine the skills needed by a worker and some of the occupations which are available.

2. When the survey has been completed, a committee of educators would analyze and select the skills and occupations with the greatest frequency as the core of the Career Bound Curriculum.

3. A student could then select two occupational skills for three years or two different occupational skills each year while attending high school.

There would still be time on his schedule for basic English, mathematics, social studies and science. Music, art and physical education also would be provided at least once a week.

4. No preparation was needed for the College Bound Curriculum since it is already in our schools.

From my personal experiences, I listed 38 occupations which require skill and training.

Looking at education and our senior high schools with a critical eye, we can and must do a better job of training our students for college and the world of work.

It will require additional funds to implement this proposal but in the long run it will save money for the taxpayers because the majority of our graduates will be gainfully employed and not wards of this city or state.

No action has been taken on this proposal, but I am hopeful that it will become a reality before I retire.

ISAIAH E. WHITE,
Principal
Calvert Educational Center

Social Services post

Dear AFRO:

I was very pleased to see your editorial on the appointment of a director of the Department of Social Services. The tricky and moody Mayor Schaefer was not about to appoint Dr. James Chavis to this position. If Dr. Chavis had been white with his impressive background, he would have been a shoo-in for the job.

Dr. Chavis' situation mirrors what generally happens to extremely able and bright black professionals in Baltimore and across the nation.

It has been an eyeopener to read some of the letters and articles in the daily papers that attack black leaders and the black community.

A good case in point was a violent and vile letter from a Hugh D. Graham, a dean at UMBC, that appeared in The SUN, attacking Dr. Samuel L. Banks. If Dr. Banks, a brilliant educator and community spokesman had been white, the SUN never would have permitted the letter to appear.

I am also reminded that Dr. Banks, in my opinion, was the outstanding candidate for the superintendency of the Baltimore City Public Schools. I believe that the mayor's choice, Dr. John Crew, is a friendly and decent man, but he does not begin to approach Dr. Banks as a demonstrated leader in curriculum and instruction. This point is widely known in the schools and community.

We do not get brilliant educators and leaders in top positions because we continue to permit the mayor and his white inner circle to determine, in a majority black city, who our leaders will be.

Perhaps the best part of the Carter victory is a message to the black community that we can elect a black mayor of Baltimore in two years.

Then, and only then, will we be able to select the best people for our public schools and city.

The AFRO has performed a real community service in showing the mayor's hand at Social Services.

WILLIAM P. JOHNSON

Questions for columnist

Dear AFRO:

Your columnist, Frederick I. Douglass, says security guards and ticket takers "blew their cool" at the Civic Center last weekend.

Following are points to show that we did not "blow our cool," and what would you have done if you:

Had had some people fail to show tickets at the door upon entering the Civic Center after being told to do so, in order to keep the crowd moving and not crowd the lobby?

Had to help enforce the laws concerning alcoholic beverages being brought into the Civic Center?

Had to stop those who would try some ruse to get in without paying or purchasing a ticket?

Had to endure the cursing and abusive language hurled at security guards?

Had someone point a gun, which later turned out to be a water pistol, in your face and deliberately squirt water in your face? Suppose it had been a real gun or acid?

Had to hold the steel folding gate by to stop the horses of people trying to crash the gate?

Had to help console a lady who had just had her purse "ripped off"?

Had to see that everyone remained seated so that others could enjoy the show?

Had to break up a gang gathering around the concession stands, who had no intentions of buying anything?

Had to help the lady who was knocked down and trampled upon by the masses trying to force their way through the gate?

Mr. Douglass, when you have donned a uniform, you take unheralded risks and we don't always "blow our cool."

We also have to be alert for those who insist on making trouble for the security or trying to start a fight when they don't see members of Baltimore's finest.

Then you single us out when the bulk of the responsibility, not the blame, was ours.

CPL. J. S. BRUTON

Smile

Have you ever wondered where your children learn all the questions you can't answer.

Young beat ... by larry young

Guaranteed student loan programs

Guaranteed student loan program (Mr. Young is a member of the House of Delegates. He represents the 38th district.)

I recently was asked to become a member of the board of trustees of Bay College. I have in the past discussed the Guaranteed Student Loan Program which is administered by HEW. Recently the following concerns have come to my attention.

The establishment of an escrow agent to disburse federally insured student loan funds to students in installments has been proposed by HEW's Office of Education. This is one of two sets of proposed rules relating to the Guaranteed Student Loan Program (GSLP) announced by the Office of Education.

The second set is a comprehensive revision of existing GSLP regulations intended to minimize losses while increasing both the efficiency of program management and the compliance capability of participating schools and lenders.

However, these revisions were prepared prior to enactment of the Education Amendments of 1976 which make numerous changes in the program. Therefore, some proposed revisions will be altered before publication and adoption of a final regulation. Proposed regulations for implementing other aspects of the new legislation will be published as soon as possible.

Under the escrow plan, which would affect only federally insured loans, the U.S. commissioner of education has discretionary authority to require a lender to send the entire proceeds of the loan to an escrow agent. The agent, in turn, would disburse the money to the borrower in appropriate installments for education purposes.

There would be no new cost to lenders, who would continue to receive interest and special allowance payments authorized under current regulations. However, the use of an escrow agent would cut costs to the federal government, ensure accurate and up-to-date data on student enrollment and protect borrowers from excessive repayment obligations.

As proposed, checks payable to the borrower would be sent by the escrow agent to the school for a determination of student status. The school would give the check to the student whose attendance it had certified.

However, if the student were not in attendance or withdraws early, all the unused loan funds would be returned to the lender and applied to the borrower's debt. Thus, students would have to pay back only the amount of the loan actually used for education and, in the case of default, the claim paid by the federal government would never be greater that the amount used.

A final decision to implement the escrow system has not been made. The Office of Education is requesting public comment, along with specific suggestions on how the plan might be improved.

The proposed rules to revise existing GSLP regulations clarify certain prohibitions, such as those against a school's payment of financial inducements to lenders making loans to its students and against the selling, at a discount, of loans made by a school-lender.

Also spelled out is a prohibition against permitting a potential GSLP borrower to sign any blank form.

A section on "due diligence" specifies the efforts lenders must take and the kinds of loan transaction records institutions must keep in order to be in compliance with program regulations.

Included are steps to ensure that loans are not made indiscriminately, that borrowers continue to be made aware of their loan obligations, and that a maximum effort is made to collect on loans in repayment.

There are a number of new or expanded definitions. A revised definition of "eligible lender" states that a bank, savings and loan association, or credit union must be subject to examination and supervision as a lender by a federal regulatory agency or by the regulatory agency of the state in which the institution's principal place of business is located.

The "institution of higher education" definition specifies that colleges and universities may participate in the GSLP only if they do not admit more than a small proportion of students without a high school diploma or its equavalent.

The public is invited to submit written comments within 60 days on the two sets of proposed rules which appear in the Nov. 5 Federal Register. Public hearings will be held in Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.

The Office of Education is asking the public also to offer suggestions for implementing the new legislation, either in writing or at the hearings.

Comments and requests for further information should be addressed to Office of Guaranteed Student Loans, U.S. Office of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202.

The Guaranteed Student Loan Program is authorized by Title IV, Part B, of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

Unforgettable first-time voter

By David Sloan

The message read: "Mrs. Moore of 1644 Thomas Ave. needs a ride to her polling place."

We circled and twisted through the traffic, finally turning into the correct street when too much broken glass had not been swept up, where paint was peeling from most porch fronts and where there was a general overlay of the indifference pall the Republican administration had succeeded in etching on so many city residential blocks.

But because school was closed in deference to this day where voters could require a change, the sound and presence of numerous youngsters playing between the parked autos gave the moment a glow of frivolity.

• "Are you going to vote for Carter?" demanded a 9-year old.

• "Isn't going to give us jobs," chimed another.

"Did you come to get Peaches?" The youth had abruptly changed his course of inquiry.

But by now I had pushed the buzzer at 1644 and a middle-aged lady said she would be out as soon as she got her coat. I had walked back to our Carter-Mondale-Sarbanes-festooned van and was about to enter when Peaches, wearing a red jacket, mini-skirt and sporting a new hair-do appeared.

But there was something strange. The middle-aged lady was struggling to help her through the small entranceway, and Peaches was giving it all she had to make it. Every limb of her body-legs, torso, arms, hands, head-all were quivering uncontrollably.

For you see, Peaches is a 21-year-old recent high school leave-taker, stricken last year by what, to the observer, seems like combined multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease.

Unless she is seated or lying down, it is as difficult for her to accomplish a simple body movement as it would be for you to wrestle a lion who was trying to devour you.

But there was Peaches—making her witness to the Democratic process and her effort to cause Jimmy Carter to be our next president. After Harv, the driver, and I maneuvered her into the vehicle, we had a moment to communicate with this unforgettable Carter supporter.

"This is my first chance to vote", she said. "I sure am glad I lived to this day. I hope Mr. Carter wins. He is such a good man, and I think he will make such a difference. Suppose he wins Maryland by only a few votes. I will be able to feel proud that mine was one of those that put him over."

And then Peaches heaved a heavy sigh of satisfaction and said, "Thank the Lord."

We blocked traffic while we steadied Peaches into the Carver High School voting precinct, and again when we delivered her and her mother, the middle-aged lady, back to 1644.

As we pulled away the 9-year-old youth yelled, "Peaches went out to vote! Hooray for Peaches!"

I thought about all the columns I had read by all the analysts who spoke of voter apathy.

Poet's corner

Rich man's burden

Rich man refusing to open up the doors
Choosing to ignore the sign of the times
Saying, "Don't bother me about yours,
I got enough trouble trying to keep mine."
Sometimes I just hang my head and pray
But no matter what I try, I can't get up from down
Looking back over my life plans along the way
Wondering why my plans never got off the ground.
So if you up there Lord
I know you can understand
My need to share
The burden of the rich man.
Lord, if it is truly part of your master plan
To treat ev'rybody equal and fair
Then the burden of the rich man
I'm sure ev'rybody will be able to bear.
Once in a while I get so turned around
All I wanna do is say
Lord lay me down
And don't let me face another day.
So if you up there Lord
I know you can understand
My need to share
The burden of the rich man.

Charles Harris

★'S AND YOU

ARIES "The Ram" (March 21-April 20) — Another's good will should not be taken for granted. Your position on the job could easily be misjudged.

TAURUS "The Bull" (April 21-May 21) — Even a small argument should be taken seriously. Your immediate future may be jeopardized.

GEMINI "The Twins" (May 22-June 21) — Trying to keep up with your aggressive friends tends to make it difficult for you to get started. Proceed at your own pace.

CANCER "The Crab" (June 22-July 23) — Your heart should never be allowed to dictate to your head. By the same token, don't be so logical that you misunderstand another's feelings.

LEO "The Lion" (July 24-Aug. 23) — Your rights may be challenged. Although you will win out, it is best to keep on your toes.

VIRGO "The Virgin" (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23) — It is well to show concern about another's difficulties. It would be more effective if you offered help.

LIBRA "The Balance" (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) — The key to success is being aggressive. Frequent submission to those in authority can cause setbacks in your career.

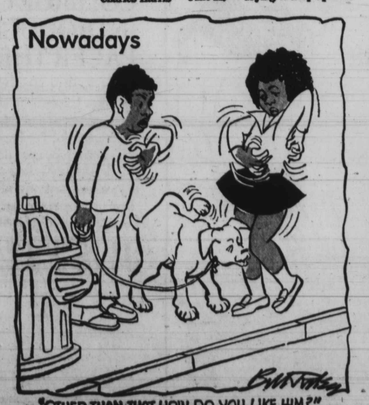
SCORPIO "The Scorpion" (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Your ability to lead will soon be demonstrated. A key position in the community awaits you.

SAGITTARIUS "The Archer" (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Some of your old friends are wondering what has become of you. Why not renew old acquaintances with a phone call or note.

CAPRICORN "The Goat" (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — Take care that your new project is stable. Study it carefully, so that it will not be the opposite of what you are contemplating.

AQUARIUS "The Water Bearer" (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Actions of a close friend are certain to gain prestige for you. Accept these actions with enthusiasm.

PISCES "The Fish" (Feb. 20-March 20) — A friend of yours will be greatly disappointed. Help him to adjust by keeping your thoughts to yourself.



"OTHER THAN THAT HOW DO YOU LIKE HIM?"

..AFRO-Line is an effective AFRO community service to help you solve problems. You may also report errors in news stories, request corrections and complain and inquire about AFRO news stories and policies.

You need only to write a postcard to AFRO-Line, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203, stating the question you want answered. Include your name, address, and telephone number.

QUESTION: With all the talk about mailing Christmas packages early, I was wondering if you might offer some tips for wrapping packages. W. E.

ANSWER: The United States Postal Service suggests the following:

1. A single item in a package should be cushioned with shredded paper, excelsior, etc. If two or more items are mailed in the same box, each should have its own individual inner carton.

2. Tape used to close containers should be reinforced and should cover and firmly secure all flaps. It is preferable that wrappers be omitted, but when paper must be used for the outer wrapping, it should be at least equal to the quality and strength of the stock used for grocery bags.

3. All packages containing delicate articles should be adequately cushioned and marked FRAGILE.

4. Each package should contain the name and address of the person to whom it is being mailed inside the package as well as outside.

5. Address the package correctly and legibly so it can be read at two feet. Be sure to include the ZIP code.

6. Be sure to put ONE mailing address on the outside of the package. Do NOT address on more than one side.

7. Be sure to put your return address on the package.

QUESTION: My son entered the Armed Forces in September and left two traffic tickets which have not been paid. I have been told that these tickets have accumulated interest. Is this sure?

ANSWER: Since Jan. 1, 1976, the City of Baltimore has been handling delinquent tickets. According to the report in our March 6 issue in answer to a similar question.

"Motorists are allowed 15 days to pay a fine without penalty. Then they are sent a notice which is usually about a month after violation. After this a penalty of $2 a month per ticket is added automatically.

"The Department of Motor Vehicles will pull applications for renewal of tags sometime in February, 1977 for all drivers with outstanding tickets. To have the registration released, a "flagging fee" of $10 must be paid. If there are three cars belonging to the violator, the violation is only on one car."

For additional information, call 396-4080.

Where to call

COMPLAINTS

Of discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical or mental disability or tension in your community, call COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION — 396-3141 or 396-3150

— questionable business practices, CONSUMER PROTECTION, 383-3656

— on food, drugs, cosmetics, medical devices, radiological products, call FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION — 462-4499

— discrimination in employment, housing or public accommodation, HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION — 383-3680.

— about phones or gas and electric services, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION — 383-2374

EMERGENCIES

AMBULANCE — 396-1111
FIRE DEPARTMENT — 685-1313
POLICE EMERGENCY — 222-3333
HOUSING, HEATING, LIGHT — 234-2172 or 234-2412

SERVICE

ANIMAL REMOVAL — 396-0218
CRIMINAL INJURIES resulting from robberies or assaults — 523-5000
DEFECTIVE SIDEWALKS — 396-3168
DRUG ABUSE COUNCIL — 383-2720
FOOD STAMPS — 234-2413, 234-2751, 234-2763
FURNACE CHECK — 396-4429
LEGAL AID — 539-3340
PENSION REFORM — 962-3914
RAPE — 366-7273
RAT AND INSECT CONTROL — 396-4418
RUMOR CONTROL — 837-1188
SEWERAGE PROBLEMS — 396-0232
TRANSIT AND TRAFFIC — 396-3049
VACANT HOUSE — 396-4176
WELFARE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION — 233-4781

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