"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., 1849-1922. 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)

Subway: Is it needed?

Wouldn't you know it, now that construction has begun we are having second thoughts about the Baltimore subway system.

Is it needed? A hell of a time to ask, we are the first to admit, but our query follows recent observations that the District of Columbia's new subway system is not exactly living up to its planner's claims.

Washington's rapid rail line is far from complete which just may be part of the problem. By the time all the tunneling and other complications of construction necessary for underground transit are over and the system is operating, anything is liable to have happened above ground: from population shifts to industrial layoffs which directly affect subway passenger totals and revenues.

Since it takes a decade to finish a typical urban subway network, often the subway ends up where the people are not which renders the whole idea obsolete.

Another thing happens: we call it ego planning error.

Ego planning error has to do with any urban project that begins with one or more genius saying "I have a great idea, let's build a subway."

Chances are subway planners are technologists who live in the suburbs and drive 30 miles into work each day. A subway, such planners think, is the ideal solution to their personal problem therefore it, also is the ideal solution to everyone else's mobility problem.

Fallacious reasoning from the outset.

Then again, subway planners might think a subway will help in other ways. While he is zipping into town on the subway the family maid can be zipping out to his house to do the chores.

We will not go so far as to say subways are designed by white men who are tired of driving in to make money — married to women who are anxious that domestic help show up at the crack of dawn.

There is no statistical evidence to support such a notion but when you study transit routes closely you do have to ask yourself what trains take who where and for what.

Subways, like many other great American visions, are well-intended in the dreaming but lousy in implementation.

Again we refer to ego planning error.

The most casual observer of this city soon concludes two things, two givens: Baltimore is a working-man's town and Baltimoreans love automobiles. The bigger the better.

Subway and other urban engineers can afford others with little effort, we suspect, therefore the auto is a less important goal. When you can get something easily enough who needs it?

The people subway designers want crammed underground, hurdling from one end of the city to the other, conversely, have to work bloody hard to get cars. Damn the pollution, driver fatigue or whatever when you work as hard as most Baltimoreans do you feel like you deserve a car. The bigger the better.

Which sets up a class and cultural tension not easily accepted by urban planners, often not taken into account.

"You should take the subway because we feel it's good for you," say the planners on one hand. "I'll never be without my Malibu or Granada," say the working folk on the other.

We dramatize the situation for emphasis surely but the two states of mind are in evidence.

We hope such ego planning error does not plague our rapid rail system but if it does you read it here first. More than one grand idea has bombed out because the people were not consulted.

II

The question is, we suppose, not if a subway is needed, but who really needs it.

At this point giant development and construction companies need the money it brings.

Construction workers need it, though our information indicates that a paucity of minority workmen are involved.

Minority contractors need it but so far have gotten short shrift.

On these last two points we strongly urge the Maryland Transit Authority to go back to the planning table.

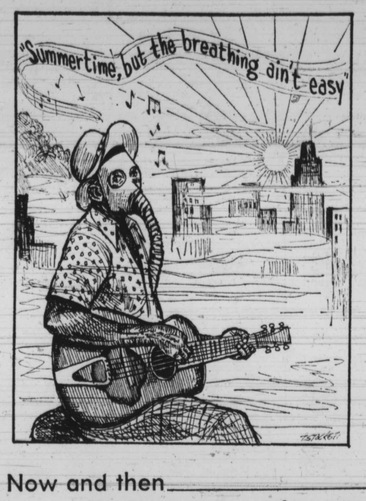
We think an across-the-board equity provision guaranteeing a 60 per cent minority work force on all inside-the-city subway construction is reasonable.

We think the 11.5 equity percentage proffered by Congressman Mitchell as the national minority share should be obtained on all construction contracts for the overall MTA system.

While we haven't the foggiest notion whether a subway is the best solution to our urban energy and mobility problems we have a clear sense that we get something out of the project while it evolves.

Too often do we end up paying at the turnstiles rather than being paid to install the turnstiles.

There is a great difference.



Now and then — Governor's salary too little

by g. james fleming

Regardless of the Mandel trial and regardless of what each reader thinks about Governor Mandel, most people should agree the pay received by the chief executives of Maryland is too low—relatively and absolutely.

The governor receives only $25,000 annually. The lieutenant governor is presently paid $44,372; judges of the state's Court of Appeals are paid in the $42,000 range and a substantial number of university professors top $25,000 for a 10-month year. Chief executives in industry would thumb their noses at any salary such as that of our governor.

The people of Maryland are inconsistent. Through their legislature, they rather recently authorized the office of lieutenant-governor, but a few years later, by referendum, they killed any hope of raising the governor's pittance, even to $35,000.

The people were in a bad mood. They were quick to say they did not think the governor "is worth it." They spoke of his free housing (the Governor's Mansion), his free cars and bodyguards, the state yacht and the other fringe benefits of the gubernatorial office. The more cynical were "sure that he has ways" of adding to his official pay.

Somehow, those who voted against any increase in the governor's salary found themselves able to live with the fact that any governor must always maintain a personal home, since he does not serve for life and must subscribe to many a "worthy cause."

A sampling of salaries paid by other states to the chief executive, chosen at random, shows the following, to which must be added as good, or better, prestigious fringes as are found in Maryland:

New York	$85,000
Pennsylvania	$60,000
Virginia	$50,000
North Carolina	$45,000
Illinois	$50,000
California	$49,100

The salary of the governor of California, as shown, is $49,100, but the incumbent Jerry Brown, eschews most of the extras. For instance, he walks to his office every morning rather than ride in a chauffeured limousine. He has also threatened to veto a bill that would raise his salary to $65,000.

Incidentally, the salary of Baltimore City's mayor is $35,000 with limited fringe benefits. There is no official mayoral residence as in New York City and no mayoral yacht.

The happy exception to underpay for the city is the superintendent of schools whose salary is $50,000, for an almost 18-hour day, a 7-day week, and a 12-month year (The Baltimore City superintendent is by no means the highest paid city school superintendent in the country).

Before long, regardless of who becomes the next governor, Marylanders will have to pay their chief executive more, in keeping with his or her responsibilities and with the "dignity" of the office.

Each reader may have two or three other reasons why the governor of the Free State should, or should not, be paid more money, more than $25,000—with a take home pay of only $17,800.

A little about a lot — by madeline w. murphy

His name was Harry

His name was Harry. He was a little older than I, but he was in the second grade when I was in the third. He didn't attend school often, say, maybe 50 days out of the year. Mainly because the kids made fun of him or his fits caused a commotion.

Sudden shadows across the doorway of our classroom, right next to his, accompanied by loud quick footsteps, usually signaled that Harry had had another fit. And the principal and teacher were ignorant as to how to deal with his problem. Their main aim seemed to be to get rid of him as fast as they could.

So on those days, when school let out, you wouldn't see his short, roly-poly figure in suspendered khaki pants ambling slowly among the other kids, who were tustling, running, full of high jinks, glad to be let loose from knuckle-cracking teachers. Harry had been spirited away long before by one of his relatives.

I knew more about Harry than most because he and his large family of aunts, uncles, sisters and brothers lived next door. At eight, I was mostly an observer.

Yet, there was a kind of awe ne struck in me because though he was nice enough, he just seemed "different."

He wouldn't play dodge ball or sidewalk soft ball, or hide and seek at twilight. He would just sit, on those warm summer nights, on the porch steps he was made to scrub, just watching. Sometimes though he'd egg his brother on or cheer a favorite. More often when I was "it," he'd silently point to the alley or the shrubbery to let me know where one of the players had hidden.

Harry was considered backward by most, even his family. He was made to do the gardening, scrub the porch and kitchen floors and clean the alley. He'd hum and sing two stanzas of the "Dipsey Doodle," in an unusual bass voice, just the first two stanzas over and over, until hours later, the tune lingered in my ears.

As time went on the fits became more frequent and finally Harry was pulled out of school for good.

Then one day we didn't see Harry anymore. We learned later that he had been sent to an institution down state. The only time I saw him again was when he came home for a weekend visit. To my amazement, all of his teeth were gone! It was quite a while later that I learned Harry had been burned to death in a flash fire at the institution.

This is not a pretty story at best, but it remains with me, because Harry's case can be numbered in the hundreds of thousands of people whose brains have been damaged at birth, or in a fall, or in contact sports, who suffer from a malady called epilepsy. And the unconcern, the cruelty of treatment over the years has caused irreparable damage or worse, needless death to too many sufferers.

As late as the 50's, I am told, epileptics had their teeth unnecessarily extracted because of the myth that they might bite off their tongues.

And so, it is heartening to read of the study conducted at the behest of the Epilepsy Foundation, HEW and the seizure clinic, John F. Kennedy Institute to bring to light the barbarism still rampant in some institutions of "gross mismanagement of patients, including unnecessary seizure deaths and overdoses of medication to a toxic level."

In contrast, the report pointed out new methods, at minimal cost, that would result in hope for the lives of sufferers to the extent that the most "neglected portion of our population" would be benefited through changes in drug therapy.

In a project which involved six institutions in five states and the District of Columbia, Dr. John M. Freeman, a pediatric neurologist and coordinator of the study, found that there was a 50 per cent decrease in the death rate among epileptics and up to a 74 per cent decrease in seizure related deaths at one of the six institutions.

Fifty per cent had decreased frequency of prolonged seizures, which could have caused severe brain damage. There was a rapid decline in the daily doses of anti-convulsive drugs. Further, they were able to identify dozens of epileptics whose disorders had been previously unrecognized and untreated.

Finally, they were able to release and return many patients believed to have uncontrollable epilepsy and other disabilities into the community.

Fortunately it is no longer necessary to hide epileptics, or to view them the way I did as a child as being "different."

At long last with this kind of study, the stigma of epilepsy that Harry suffered may soon be history.

Yet there are untold numbers who still suffer quietly in shame and anxiety because they are unaware of this new interest, support and treatment. There are also many teachers, principals, parents and social workers who need to be alerted to ways epileptics should be treated.

Therefore it is very important for them to get information from the Epilepsy Association of Central Maryland, 2514 N. Charles St., 243-4811, to begin to strike down the ignorance, myths and begin treatment, availing themselves of programs geared to the special needs of epileptics.

Donna and Boyce, part II

A special School Board committee has been looking into the Lake Clifton High School commencement affair according to news reports elsewhere on these pages.

Donna Stewart, the ranking June graduate, you will recall unleashed a scathing attack on the then Lake Clifton principal, Boyce Mosley, on graduation night.

Mosley had sought to prevent Ms. Stewart's speech.

It was a grand mess to say the least. It did, however, indicate that a sizeable number of black students and parents disagreed with Mosley's administration of the school.

Mosley is now Region Four superintendent of city schools so we do not quite understand what the School Board committee had in mind when it listened to testimony by Ms. Stewart and her mother after the event.

Our sources report some Board members were angered at the treatment Ms. Stewart received. We also understand Mosley was to have been questioned also.

We tend to be skeptical of institutions which investigate themselves, even so pristine a body as our Board of School Commissioners.

So we would want this committee to share its findings with us. Anything that helps clear the air about Lake Clifton will serve all concerned and the wider community as well.

Provident Hospital

Dennis Gowie, as able a hospital administrator as you will ever find, in resigning his directorship of Provident Hospital, we conclude, did the best thing for that institution, the community and himself.

We wish him well and are sensitive to his wishes that this community medical center not be the arena for a protracted battle over hospital management policies.

Provident Hospital has a rich and honorable tradition. Less known but equally as important, is the fact that it is one of the largest black employers in the East with some 1,100 workers in the many phases of its operation.

As the Provident Board searches for a successor to Gowie, we hope it will also now concern itself with those ways and means which best enable Provident to build on its legacy.

Old Provident, some friends of the hospital feel, operated at a higher rate of production and more energetic delivery of services.

In this transition from old to new, this performance may have slipped a bit.

We are confident that Provident's pace will quicken now that certain procedural problems have been resolved and under its enlightened Board leadership will keep on growing and serving our city.

Washington report

A consumer protection agency is needed

By Parren J. Mitchell

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

Some members of Congress are either undecided about or decidedly against the creation of a federal agency for consumer protection, as pending legislation seeks to do.

I am not one of them.

Although I understand the concerns voiced by a number of the letters which I receive from individuals and the fears advanced by representatives of the business community, at this point I have not been presented with sufficient evidence to show that an agency for consumer protection is not needed—and needed desperately.

Admittedly, I do not place nearly the full faith in public polls that many do, but it is interesting to at least note that a recent Harris poll—commissioned and paid for by the Sentry Insurance Company—showed:

(a) 52 per cent of the total public favor the creation of a federal protection agency;

(b) 50 per cent of the public said that compared with 10 years ago, "consumers get a worse deal in the marketplace." Only 27 per cent said they get a better deal;

(c) 77 per cent of the public said "the consumer movement has kept industry and business on their toes." Only 8 per cent disagreed; and

(d) 61 per cent of the total public said there should be the "same amount" of or "more" government regulation of business.

This public opinion poll suggests most people have gotten the word about why such an agency should be formed. Unfortunately, however, there still exist many, many misconceptions about bills before the Congress which would accomplish the goal.

The record should be set straight. Legislation pending Congressional action would establish an independent, NONREGULATORY agency for consumer protection to advance the interests of consumers before federal agencies and courts and to provide the public with information about consumer matters. The Agency for Consumer Protection (ACP) will have no regulatory or other legal power to force businesses to change their practices in any way. Rather, it will operate exclusively as an advocate for consumers. For the first time, therefore, consumers will have a voice within the federal government where, too often, the only voices heard have been those of lobbyists and other powerful special interests.

The ACP will not be another "superagency" with vast powers.

The ACP will have no regulatory power. It cannot make rules, set standards, issue licenses, punish lawbreakers, charge fines or the like. It will simply be an advocate for consumers during the proceedings of activities of other agencies when they are considering matters which substantially affect consumers. As a participant, the ACP will have no special privileges or rights and can participate only in the manner and to the extent that other parties can participate.

The ACP will not be another costly new agency.

Quite the contrary, the ACP will not require additions to the size or operation of government. It will be set up by consolidating offices that are already operating throughout the federal government, and by reducing or abolishing other consumer-related programs, the cost of which are not justified.

The ACP Administrator would not have unlimited power.

The administrator will serve at the pleasure of the President and can thus be removed by the President at any time. The ACP itself is subject to oversight by both houses of Congress and will have to justify its budget annually.

In addition, Congress may abolish the ACP at any time if it is not doing its job. In fact, the house bill specifically calls for a complete review of the ACP in five years and will abolish it if it has not proven itself.

Here is an example of exactly how the ACP will work.

Many of us are still trying to pay our fuel bills from the record setting winter of 1976-1977. A prime reason why homes were colder and budgets tighter during last winter was because the Federal Energy Administration (FEA) removed price and allocation controls from home heating oil.

The FEA took this action despite strong evidence that the consequences would be great and their underlying assumptions (that there would be no natural gas shortage and that competition would lower prices) were justified. After the price and allocations were removed by FEA the price of residential home heating oil went up any where from five to eight cents a gallon, oil industry profits soared and the estimated impact on consumers was between $800 million and $2 billion.

The FEA's monitoring system which should have protected the public simply did not. As is typical, the oil industry had the FEA's undivided attention in the agency proceedings. Consumers and consumer groups simply did not have the financial resources or the technical expertise to challenge industry data and arguments, which inevitably and conveniently show that decontrol and higher prices are necessary.

An ACP could have intervened in those proceedings. With their resources and clout they could have argued forcefully that FEA was underestimating winter demand, that the oil industry is not competitive and that FEA should proceed with caution in decontrol of petroleum products.

Futher, the ACP could have cross-examined industry's witnesses, called its own experts and made the appropriate legal and economic arguments to rebut industry's data and position.

The result could have been a reduction in graduation expenses, more money for a summer vacation, or a head start on approaching college tuition costs for us—rather than the oil man.

"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

Defending Verda

This is a copy of a letter sent recently to the editor of the Morning Sun

Dear AFRO:

In my opinion, your editorial attack on Senator Welcome in Monday's edition (May 27), concerning her remarks on the Mondawmin - McDonald's situation, was both unwarranted and misplaced.

In case you don't know it, Senator Welcome not only represents our district and the significant number of mall - area - residents opposing this restaurant, she is a mall - area - resident living within a stone's throw of Mondawmin. She will be able to see the Golden Arches from her front porch. So it seems to me that she has a double right to scream, "Foul," and I agree with all she has said.

Instead of attacking Senator Welcome, you could have mentioned the shameful treatment that our Mayor gave the opponents of this restaurant at the "hearing" he scheduled on this controversy. He allowed us, many senior citizens, to drag through the heat and traffic to attend a "hearing," the outcome of which had already been decided. How open could his mind have been if he rendered a decision within twenty - four hours? He didn't even have the decency to wait a week! You could have mentioned this insult to our intelligence.

You might have commented on the quality and quantity of the presentations for and against this restaurant at the aforementioned "hearing." Had you been present and awake, you could not have helped but notice that there was no comparison between these two presentations. This was noteworthy.

In his feeble attempts to justify such an unfair and possibly harmful "decision," the Mayor said something about abandoned gas stations and how pleased he was to see the old Sears property rescued. Does he or you, for that matter, feel that this rescue was effected by some altruistic and-or philanthropic motivation? Of course not! The rescue was effected for economic and profit making reasons and this is O.K. But we should be honest about why such things are being done. You could have commented on this weak and transparent reasoning for signing CC 345.

As to the restaurant - for - a - prison ploy, it was a most convenient vehicle for riding roughshod over the wishes of many mall - area - residents, but I am certain that if the restaurant - prison issue had not been handy, another would have been found.

Finally, you and your reporters continue to harp on "a struggle for supremacy in black politics" in referring to this restaurant controversy. This discounts the sustained efforts of many mall-area-residents who are wed to no political leader—black or white—but only interested in a stable, attractive neighborhood. You still seem to be laboring under that ancient misapprehension that there must be just one black political leader. There are many white political leaders. Couldn't there be more than one black political leader? Maybe someday we'll simply have leaders.

Sincerely Yours,
C. W. Marshall, Jr.

Wasp's still laughing

Dear AFRO:

History keeps repeating itself with variations, and black people still aren't listening.

Take a look at the captions on the photographs of Polish Jews on display, lower level of City Hall.

For 200 years to the mid 1960's poor whites and poor blacks fought each other for the crumbs the affluent let slip from the American "pie" and white Anglo-Saxon Protestants laughed all the way to the bank.

During the late 60's and early 1970's ethnics fought minorities for the crumbs . . . and the WASP's laughed all the way to the bank.

Now a group calling themselves the "real" Jews, a group which looks like the Temptations or the Miracles on stage, but "playing" on the name of religion, a sect of black Jews from Detroit come to town to stir up hatred of blacks against Jews . . . and the WASP's laughed all the way to the bank.

Again or still? Anyway, we are fighting and they are winning as usual and laughing all the way to the bank.

MARY W. JONES

Family harassments

Dear AFRO:

I believe it is an out-and-out violation of a persons rights to have their door kicked in by so-called law enforcers, just because they are related to a suspected criminal.

Police come into the black community armed with arrest warrants for suspects. They kick in mothers doors, sisters' doors and friends' doors to find these suspected criminals. There should be a law against such outrageous and ridiculous actions.

Why should a person's mother be frightened half to death at 5:30 a.m. because the police are looking for her son, who often doesn't even live with her any more. To add insult to injury the damage done by these "law enforcers" has to be paid by the victims of these crimes.

This action must come to an immediate end. This is a community outrage. Hence the community must be instrumental in ending this outrage.

We must be mindful that these actions do not take place in affluent white communities. So why should we have to tolerate it?

VERNON COLLINS

Hoots to 'Roots'

Dear AFRO:

"Roots," a successful book, will net Alex Haley millions. Subsidized by a magazine of international repute, he was lucky to find his roots going back only several hundred years.

I go back thousands, to Moses! — but you don't find me writing a book.

Maybe the findings were important to Alex Haley, but in all sincerity and seriousness, I doubt its importance to anyone else.

What does it tell us we did not already know? And we knew it from better writers. He himself said most of book was fiction. The money generated is quite real!

Admittedly, the book and its wide exposure is the result of shrewd advertising and promotion. Was F. Scott Fitzgerald wrong when he said: "advertising is a racket . . its constructive contribution to humanity is exactly minus zero"?

B. J. SMALL

People are reading

From the Pratt Library's Northwood Branch, 4420 Loch Raven Blvd., here are five selections for pleasure reading recommended by Floyd C. Owens Jr. of the library's staff. Titles are available at most Pratt agencies.

GORRILLA, MY LOVE, by Toni Cade Bambara. A collection of her short stories.

ALWAYS MOVIN' ON, by James Haskins. A biography of Langston Hughes.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS, by Arnold Adoff. Modern stories by black Americans.

TITUBA OF SALEM VILLAGE, by Ann Petry. The true story of Tituba, a slave accused of being a witch during the Salem witch hunts.

IN LOVE AND TROUBLE, by Alice Walker. Stories of problems black women face and how they solve them.

Thanks from Eager St.

We, the Eager St. Jaycee's here at the Baltimore City Jail would like to extend a great big thank you in as personal fashion as possible.

The Mother's Day notice you placed in your paper was just touching.

Thanks again and whatever way the Jaycee's can assist you, please feel free to contact us. May God bless you.

EAGER ST. JAYCEE'S INTERNATIONAL
President—Robbine Banner
Vice President—Johnnie Thorne
External Director William Johnson
Internal Director Vernon Scipio
State Director—Alphonso Howard
Treasure-Secty. Joseph Otey

Young beat — by larry young

The struggle

(The following article was submitted by Frederick Carl Wood, a young lad who often comments on Young Beat articles and wanted the opportunity to share his opinions with Young Beat readers.)

We Must Vote—and wisely

With the election of a new president, the record to date is one of "a great deal of promise but no fulfillment."

This present era in our history is one infused with hope and a call to action. But black people are not powerless in the face of blatant, revolting and reniged promises, implied or explicit. The power of the vote continues to be a social-political arsenal only too infrequently and capriciously used by the black constituents.

Recent elections in St. Louis, Atlanta and Chicago point up abysmal black indifference, unconcerned and lingering political ignorance and naivete.

Low voter registration and equally poor black voter turnout continue to be the order of the day. In Baltimore city alone, 40 per cent of all eligible voters are unregistered.

Nothing comes for the asking—at least nothing of substance and worth. If the black masses are to enjoy more of the main stream rewards of this American society, they will do so only by informed casting of their votes—in each and every election.

Another dimension of political awareness is to hold elected representatives to a high standard of behavior and responsible use of power.

There is a third dimension and it has to do with the black tendency to await the second coming of a messiah. The dangers in our worship of the Negro past is that of tying events and progress to one or two persons.

Leadership is less important than collective behavior unified in the pursuit of black progress, access to power and responsible decision-making.

There are three important lessons to be learned. We must vote. We must vote—wisely.

The struggle for black power

Black America is like a ball of fire. Its revolts spread over the land leaving hardly any northern city unscathed. Starting out as civil rights struggle, the movement now takes on the aspect of social revolution, a black revolution, a revolt of the poor.

Where is the revolt heading?

How can its goals be obtained?

The answer to questions like these requires clear knowledge of roots and causes and of dynamic forces which are accelerating the pace.

The revolt rests on four principle developments.

It is occasioned by the necessity for black people to have a substantial share of power over decisions affecting their welfare.

It is an outgrowth of the terrible conditions in the ghetto.

It is aggravated by the problems in the rural areas of the south.

It is compounded by the intensification of racism in the white community.

The black power slogan has come to symbolize the end of an era.

A new one is being born with the usual birth pains that accompanies the emergence of the new. The slogan has been used by the white power structure to break up old alignments between blacks and whites among blacks themselves.

When it suggested white liberals in large numbers fled from the civil rights movement as if a deadly plague had hit it, the more conservative black leaders rushed to assure their white bosses that the black power advocate did not speak for them.

The purpose of this attack was to destroy the younger militants and to arrest trends for greater radicalism in the black community. Thus, the pressures of the white-led power structure have helped to provoke sharp cleavages between the various civil rights organizations and leaders.

There are also material factors within the black community which often endanger clashes. Black people are not a homogenous group. Although oppressed, like other people, they consist of various class strata.

But in one way or another, since Jim Crow policy affects all blacks, the community often finds common denominators which unite all. However, there are times when collisions between classes come to the forefront.

The course of events has already put the economic problem of the black masses at the center of the struggle.

Not all black leaders see the problems clearly. Not all of them, including many of the younger militant, understand what will be required to achieve goals along this line.

Nonetheless there are many hopeful signs that most black people are beginning to see the kinds of primacy of the struggle on the economic and political front and it is in the concept of such a growing awareness that we can hopefully look forward to the re-emergence of black unity on a higher level.

There will still be many struggles between classes, trends and tendencies, but the movement will continue to find common interest which can unite all strata of the black people.

Poet's corner

The Requiem

And somehow we never talk of
death
Though we always manage
To make it to the funeral to sit and
think
And sit and offer weeping condolences
That will not alter what is
Nor what is destined to be
Just as God is life is and so death is
And we always speak of our
lifetime
How we say what we say when we
say
We gonna do
Though we never have enough time
Constantly gasping for time
There is never enough time nor
Is tomorrow ever promised to us
So we bury a man today
And how do we measure a man's
life
After he's gone
Do we speak of the difficult times
And how you worked hard
Each day everyday you lived
And now when I stop and
Think about you I recollect those
Beautiful and happy moments we
shared
Those times you placed me on your
Knee and the warmth I felt
When you said
"Child go' head everything's
alright"
Times mama fussed, hollered and
talked about you
But of how she loved you
And how do we measure a man's
worth
Do we speak of his pains, his burdens
Or perhaps his dreams
Everybody sitting around talking
About how you were
Though even as you leave
Time moves on and you will
Be respected, remembered and
loved
And so a man is buried today.

ROBIN

NOWADAYS

"HOLD THE GRACE, CATHERINE. IT LOOKS AS THOUGH WE'RE NOT ABOUT TO RECIEVE ANYTHING TO BE THANKFUL FOR FOR AWHILE YET."

Salute of the week

(AFRO readers are invited to submit names of persons or organizations to be used in this column. Write Salute of the Week, AFRO-American Newspapers, P. O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21201.)

Joseph Gordon, a native of Trinidad, came to the U.S. about ten years ago.

He worked at Johns Hopkins Hospital for six and a half years as a nursing assistant.

For the past three years Mr. Gordon has worked in security at Bon Secours Hospital.

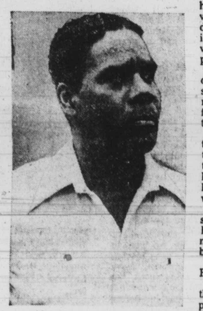
An article which appeared in "The Bon News," a monthly publication of the Bon Secours Hospital stated:

"When Mr. Gordon began, he worked one of the difficult security posts in the hospital. The parking situation was in a bad state at that time, and many of the security guards were approached about trying to correct the matter. Mr. Gordon said, 'yes' and began his new assignment by encouraging employes to park between the lines. . . .

"Mr. Gordon stated what he likes most about his job is working alone. He likes being with people very much but he finds the responsibility of the parking lot quite enjoyable.

"This past winter was very difficult on the parking lot. The snow made Mr. Gordon's job more taxing than usual. . . . In addition to helping park the employes' cars, Mr. Gordon is extra busy two days a week when the parking lot is crowded due to the nursing students. . .

"Off the job, Mr. Gordon enjoys work in electronics such as repairing stereos, TVs and radios. He has a diploma from the Davis School of Electronics and is enrolled in a correspondence course for an advanced diploma in electronics from Bennett College in Sheffield, England."



JOSEPH GORDON

Mr. Gordon volunteers his electronic services to St. Vincent de Paul Church whenever needed.

Mr. Gordon is the son of the late Benjamin and Hilda Small Gordon.

He is married to the former Miss Rita Khan. They have four daughters, Mrs. Ann Warren, Mrs. Jennifer Adolphus, Mrs. Bernadette Roach, Miss Heather Gordon; three grandchildren, Alicia, Gillian, Kendall and one on the way.

Mr. Gordon's sister, Mrs. Carmen Jones, is a nurse in Trinidad and his brother Kenneth Gordon is a seaman.

He attends St. Matthews Catholic Church on Loch Raven Blvd.

Afro Line

EDITED BY TRUDY STEELE

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: I work in Washington and am due at work at 7 a.m. We arrive at the Greyhound Bus Station in plenty time but on occasion the bus doesn't arrive until 6:45 p.m. Of course this makes me late and I have been reprimanded for this several times.

Also, the bus comes from Buffalo and we usually have to stand all the way to Washington. They used to have a special bus from here to Washington. Why has this been discontinued?

I was hoping the AFRO could help me because I certainly do not want to lose my job through no fault of my own. — Y.N.

ANSWER: A spokesman from the Greyhound Bus Station told AFRO Line:

"These buses originate in Buffalo and we do not have the control as when they start from here. They do run late sometimes because of the traffic."

According to the new schedule, which went into effect last Tuesday, there is a bus which leaves Baltimore at 5:15 a.m. and arrive in Washington at 6:15 a.m. A bus leaves at 6:15 a.m. but stops in Silver Spring and doesn't arrive in D.C. until 7:35 a.m. These schedules are effective daily except Saturdays, Sundays or holidays.

Buses which originate in Baltimore are locals. In order to be assured a seat one would have to catch a local bus at 4:30 a.m. and arrive in Washington at 6:25 a.m.

QUESTION: I worked for a local hospital for more than 14 years. I was asked to come to work on my day off and on the way home I was in a car accident. Actually, police were chasing a boy and hit my parked car.

I was granted a six-month leave of absence but because the doctor said my hand would not heal in six months, I asked for an extension. In fact, my lawyer called and asked them.

They wrote me a letter stating they couldn't show favoritism, then went to the personnel director's office and showed them my hand and arm and explained that I had done them a favor by coming to work on my day off.

It is bad enough to have to carry scars for the rest of my life but to lose in my job also is a bit unfair. I need someone to help me get my job back. — D.C.

ANSWER: A call to the Human Relations Commission revealed:

"I'm on that job it is normal for them to extend leaves to other people and have done so with whites then she has a case.

"But, if it is a matter of written policy that no one gets that kind of treatment, then she hasn't.

"Tell her to come in and file and let the agency take a look to see if she does have a case. Ask her to call Ms. Pamela Jefferson at 383-3680."

Smile

After consuming a Mexican dinner prepared by his wife, the husband asked, "Why travel hundreds of miles to eat Mexican food and get an upset stomach when we can do it right here in the comfort of our own home?"

The doctor's scribbling on prescription blanks may say, "I have my $20. He should be worth an equal amount to you."

STARS AND YOU

ARIES "The Ram" (March 21-April 20) — Your superiors should see only the best in you. It will be well not to depend on anyone other than yourself for progress

TAURUS "The Bull" (April 21-May 21) — You have as many problems as you can handle at present. It will be wise to explain to others why you can not become involved.

GEMINI "The Twins" (May 22-June 21) — Be careful not to offend those who offer suggestions. Make a concerted effort to appear interested.

CANCER "The Crab" (June 22-July 23) — Display an enthusiastic concern for another's gain. Work a little harder and you too will receive a reward.

LEO "The Lion" (July 24-Aug. 23) — Begin today to develop a closeness with members of your family. This will encourage the shy ones to display affection.

VIRGO "The Virgin" (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) — You will be issued an invitation to discuss business matters. Do not turn it down even though you will have to forgo an evening of pleasure.

LIBRA "The Balance" (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) —A display of bad temper may sometimes be interpreted as childish. Disappointment comes to all and must be accepted.

SCORPIO "The Scorpion" (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Loved ones are doing their best to please you. Don't risk it all by asking for the moon.

SAGITTARIUS "The Archer" (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Investigate before you condemn another for his behavior. You may want to reconsider and play a different role.

CAPRICORN "The Goat" (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — Some outsiders are trying hard to disrupt your family plans. Perhaps you need to take the leadership on the home front.

AQUARIUS "The Water Bearer" (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — You may need to change your plans because of an unexpected visitor. However, events in your life will take a turn for the better.

PISCES "The Fish" (Feb. 20-March 20) — Professional gains are hard to come by. Be sure that your business affairs are in order before getting involved in other things.