Baltimore Afro-American

OPINION

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More like them!

It seems absurd that we should have to crow about two women who have been appointed to positions in the public service which do not pay even $50,000 per year. But, such is the state of the art.

Such is the state, too, of race and race relations in Maryland and in most parts of the United States, that every breakthrough for blacks — positions and recognitions they have never held before — calls for celebration.

This time the brass band is out for Marjorie A. Jennings and Martena Green. They stuck to their jobs, rose in rank, and now fill offices never filled by blacks before.

Mrs. Jennings was recently appointed by Gov. Hughes to be a member of the State Parole Commission, after she had served on the staff of the commission for several years, lately as chief administrator and budget coordinator in the office of the chairman.

No "affirmative action" here, Miss Jennings was selected after 20 applicants were interviewed. No "affirmative action" but no racial discrimination, either.

Miss Green is the new director of the Women's Detention Center at the City Jail. She reached her post via the Civil Service and after years of experience reclaiming juvenile delinquents under the City Street Club Service.

Both new appointees are graduates of Morgan State University. In addition, Miss Green earned the master's degree in criminology and corrections from Coppin State College. All of which brings to mind the contribution that these predominantly black colleges have made, and still make, to the several cities and the entire state.

And, there are more like them (Misses Jennings and Green) all over the place.

Birds owner and us

"There are a lot of people in Baltimore who are very uneasy because somebody from Washington bought the team. I said I would keep the team in Baltimore as long as the city supports it, but there seems to be some grave incredulity about this.

"They shouldn't feel that way because I meant what I said."

That is the way Edward Bennett Williams answers the repeated questions concerning the future of the baseball Orioles under his ownership.

Williams, a prominent D.C. attorney and co - proprietor of the Washington Redskins, acquired the Orioles last week in a $12 million purchase from Jerold C. Hoffberger.

The Williams assessment is correct. Many Baltimoreans fear the presence of a Washington - based ownership in the cherished homeland of the Birds.

They recognize the anxiety in D.C. — in Congress and in the White House as well as in the street — to return major league baseball to the city which lost its franchise eight years ago.

That occurred when then - owner Bob Short moved the club to Arlington, Texas, over the loud protests of District fans.

In his steadfast denial of any thought of deserting Baltimore for his native Washington, buyer Williams has, nevertheless, failed to convince local factions that he is sincere.

The general in - the - street feeling is that lawyer Williams may be dealing in semantics.

How much support is sufficient support?

Baltimore will be watching to see what he is saying.

Carter's visit—why?

By James D. Williams
Mr. Williams is director of communications, the National Urban League

Please indulge me for just a moment by responding to the following multiple choice question.

"What did President Carter's whirlwind visit to Baltimore on the hottest day of the year accomplish?"

ANSWERS

(1) Impressed by the President's popularity, as attested to by the crowds that turned out to see him, Sen. Jesse Helms (R. N.C.) has decided to vote in favor of Salt 2.

(2) Disturbed by the President's popularity, as attested to by the crowds that turned out to see him, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D. Mass.) is busy revising his strategy for winning Baltimore's black vote.

(3) Sensing through transcendental meditation that the turnout for the President wasn't all that great, Gov. Jerry Brown (D. Calif.) had dispatched a special task force to East Baltimore to find a home that is heated entirely by burning old newspapers. Once the home is located, he plans to send Jane Fonda in for an overnight visit.

(4) For once, the train between Washington and Baltimore was on time.

(5) The President and Rosalyn had a chance to get away from the White House for a day, which was all to the good since it was Amy's turn to fix dinner.

(6) None of the above.

Actually, no one seems quite sure what the visit accomplished or what it proved. We do know the sojourn made the Sons of Italy happy and that it brought several carloads of outsiders to the 2000 block E. Biddle Street for a look - see at a solar heated house, but outside of that — what else?

In attempting to understand the rationale of the Baltimore visit, it is important to accept as gospel the fact that sometimes a Presidential visit is not supposed to do anything — it is just supposed to give the appearance of doing something.

This gets the attention of the media, which is what the President and his advisors want to do in the first place. The 7 p.m. nightly news thus leads off with shots of the President looking powerfully Presidential out mingling with the people, and this is good medicine for improving sagging popularity ratings.

A classic example of this was a similar visit Carter and then Secretary of HUD Patricia Roberts Harris paid to a desolated — and I mean really desolated — section of New York's South Bronx some months ago.

The section was really beat up and there were the President and Ms. Harris in a broad brimmed white hat looking at the burned out buildings, the mounds of trash and garbage, telling each other and the reporters how bad it all was and how something had to be done.

After the President and Ms. Harris left, so did all the interest in the area. It is still as they left it, except that the desolation has grown a little more desolate, the mounds of trash and garbage have grown a bit higher, and the hopes of the people have fallen to a new low.

So the people of Baltimore would be well advised not to expect that anything spectacular is going to happen in the wake of Carter's visit.

It was a one - day blitz that helped get Mr. Carter some of the favorable exposure he needs if he is to come back from the deficit position he now occupies.

Presidents have a habit of doing this — hitting the trail — when they are in trouble. President Johnson tried to do it when Vietnam threatened to split the country.

Nixon also tried to take his case to the people when Watergate began to come unraveled.

Carter is no different. There is a thing about "pressing the flesh" that seems to rejuvenate politicians. It is something as necessary to them as the air they breathe; this reaching out to show that they can still bring out the crowds, they can still arouse the cheers.

Madeline MURPHY

Stop the draft!

When I look at the abundant births of boys today, I'm reminded of what my father read into this happening.

He would shake his head, puff on his pipe, and with a far away look in his eyes, would merely utter, "War".

Now with seven boys out of eight grandchildren, with the arguments for and against the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT) with the Soviet Union that would limit the world - wide arms build up; with the hue and cry for classification and registration for a peacetime draft exclusively for males age 18; whispering to me in every news release, as if echoing my long-dead father's voice are the renewed sinister litanies that drum: "War, war, war."

Listening to the recent Senate hearings on SALT II, it seemed that an astounding chess game was being played out with eerie detachment, yet with grisly reality to me that human beings were the vulnerable pawns.

Hearing about the MIRV's, the ICBM's, MX bombers, the code words of mass destruction, the cry for more billions of dollars to build more and more without any sane plan to store them safely, the thought came to mind that if it takes only a few in these arsenals to kill everyone on the face of the earth, why this surging panic this vengefulness to move toward overkill?

Now even with memories still fresh of the draft card burnings of the 60s, the resistance against the war in Vietnam, it seems that in counteraction to this protest, there is a hysterical—mounting—the patriotic fervor—patriotism being the last recourse of the scoundrel — the buy American myopia of the 30s that gives solace to the wretched masses who then are diverted from the spreading, seeping havoc wrought by depression, recession and runaway inflation.

Yet on the other hand wretches like you and me are hoodwinked and know very little about the issues that surround the forfeiture of our liberty.

For the draft will be the final leveler, wrenching away our freedom.

Hear what John Shatuck, director of the Washington office of the American Civil Liberties Union says: "Apart from prison there is no government institution that imposes more severe controls on private citizens than a military draft. Under threat of criminal sanctions", he continues, "the draft forces people into a system where they can no longer live, work, speak or act as they choose."

How's that for a burgeoning police state?

Moreover, it is clear that forcing a draft upon us would be the short term solution to the bungled longer term economic chaos in our domestic life that threatens wide spread upheaval. History is replete with social disorder, food riots, when government neither has the will nor capacity to solve its economic problems.

That the mere suspicion that there might be a war can develop a mounting campaign to pass the draft provision by the House Armed Services Committee, shows also the anxiety for self perpetuation by the merchants of war and the overblown zealous personnel of the Department of Defense.

In 1973, the ACLU through its general counsel, made this impassioned plea before Congress, which was no less stirring then than it is today:

"What is easily forgotten is that the draft in theory and in practice, is so diametrically opposed to individual liberty that nothing short of the preservation of the nation can justify it.

Anyone who contends that the draft or its system, should be retained for any reason, has not learned the lessons of our history and does not comprehend the difference between freedom and totalitarianism."

In the long history of the United States, it has only been in the last 30 years or so that there has been a peacetime draft. During this time we have suffered the debacles of Korea and Vietnam.

The fact that we had a peacetime draft provided a ready offensive tool to pursue the maniacal imperialism that has shaped our failing economic domestic policies. And at the same time, brought about the senseless maiming and killing of our black youth, DISPROPORTIONATELY.

Brothers, and sisters, neighbors and friends, if you want America to really look good to you, Stop The Draft by writing your representatives and senators urging them to oppose a peacetime draft, Selective Service classification system or draft registration.

Circulate petitions to raise the consciousness of all people so that our world will survive and become a peaceful place for all mankind.

PARREN MITCHELL

Critical legislation

The U.S. House of Representatives has acted upon several important pieces of legislation in the past few weeks. I thought you should know about that legislation and why I supported or did not support the various bills.

1. **SYN FUELS:** The House took the lead in passing bold new legislation providing for the start up on a joint government - private industry effort in the development of synthetic fuels. The bill sets a production goal of 500,000 barrels - a - day crude oil equivalent within 5 years; 2 million barrels - a - day within 10 years.

With some misgivings, I voted for the legislation. I was concerned that this might, in effect, be another subsidy for the oil corporations, but protections were built in. When weighed against the prospect of gas lines for the next ten years, I voted for the Synthetic Fuels Bill

2. **WINDFALL PROFIT TAX:** The House considered a bill to tax domestic crude oil to recover part of the extra revenues oil companies will collect as a result of the President's decision to decontrol prices. The proposals before the House all called for a stiffer tax rate than the President's and will net between $25 - $30 billion over 3 years depending on the alternative chosen.

Before voting in favor of this bill, I supported an amendment which would have fixed 80 percent of the windfall profits. That amendment was voted down. The Bill passed by the House, and I ultimately voted for setting the tax at 60 percent.

3. **BUDGET RESOLUTION:** Congress adopted 1980 spending targets of $532 billion; slashing the deficit to $23 billion, the lowest in 6 years.

I voted against the budget resolution because it ruthlessly and needlessly slashed many of the human welfare programs so necessary for the survival of so many people. While slashing those programs, the budget for the military was significantly increased. I had no choice but to vote "no" on the budget resolution.

4. **PANAMA CANAL ACT:** The House advanced an administration priority in passing implementing legislation for the Panama Canal Treaties. The bill provides for the operation of the canal on a self - sustaining basis with maximum protection of U.S. property and control of expenditures.

In my opinion, America cannot assume an imperialist stance such as Great Britain, France and Germany had in the past, and for which those nations now pay a price in international economics.

The Panama Canal Treaty was long overdue. Time and changing world events made the Treaty mandatory for us. So I had no problem in voting for the legislation to implement the Panama Canal Treaty.

5. **EGYPT - ISRAEL AID:** A bill in a joint House - Senate conference authorizes $1.47 billion to support a total program of $4.8 billion in economic and military aid to implement the recent peace treaty between these nations.

I addressed the U.S. House of Representatives on this issue, pointing out that I entered Congress as a peace candidate and that I desperately want to see a world at peace. However, I also pointed out to the Congress that I could not vote for this money when the House had just passed a Budget Resolution cutting funds for housing, education, health, jobs and job training.

6. **ZIMBABWE - RHODESIA:** The House considered a bill to lift sanctions by October 15, 1979, unless against U.S. interests.

President Carter has already announced that premature lifting of sanctions would not be in the best interests of the U.S. Not a single African nation has recognized the ersatz Smith - Muzorewa government. I was able to vote for this compromise bill which I hoped would off - set the action taken by the U.S. Senate which called for the immediate lifting of sanctions.

However, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Great Britain has announced that her government will lift sanctions against Rhodesia. She did not name a date for the lifting of sanctions. If Great Britain does indeed suspend the sanctions, given the mood of the United States Congress, it will be exceedingly difficult for America to retain sanctions against Rhodesia.

Day, in, day out, week in, week out, we in Congress must study, debate and act on extremely complex domestic and foreign issues. On each of those issues, I always carefully weigh the interests of blacks, minorities, the poor and the people of color around the world.

—Letters—

On omissions by John Unitas

Dear AFRO:

Once again, I feel compelled to write because of the evident apathy of the citizens of this community.

As a member of the invisible minority referred to by Ralph Ellison, I am constantly sensitive of the social dynamics referenced in his The Invisible Man.

Most recently, this emotional phenomena uniquely experienced by the most visible minority in this country struck home when I listened to the comments made by Johnny Unitas when he was recently inducted into the Football Hall of Fame.

No one could rationally oppose the contention that Mr. Unitas was one of the finest technical performers in the profession; however, I take issue with the lot of persons he credited with having helped in making him a success.

I stopped watching, wondering whether or not the pain, frustration and humiliation I felt was being simultaneously and empathetically experienced by some of the players he failed to name, such as Lenny Moore, Big Daddy Lipscomb, Jim Parker, Milt Davis and others, all of whom were key factors in making Mr. Unitas the epitome of success that he was.

Those obvious omissions, intentional or not, have been a major topic of discussion in the community since the inductions.

Unfortunately, rumors have circulated around Baltimore alluding to the existence of racial friction within the Colt's organization during the Unitas regime. His failure to credit the black players with their just due did much to reinforce these feelings.

It is hoped that this letter will sensitize the Colts in their preparation for the incoming season to take advantage of some excellent opportunities to reverse or nullify these concerns.

Mr. Marchibroda, for example, recently stated that "he liked what he saw . . ." following his observation of Joe Gilliam's quarterbacking performance for the Baltimore Eagles and I would hope that the organization seriously considers pursuing the signing of Mr. Gilliam.

The spector of the Lydell Mitchell debacle still lingers and yet, there are opportunities to take constructive steps to openly demonstrate the organization's commitment towards providing equitable opportunities, publicity and credit to all of its players regardless of race.

JOHN B. FERRON

AFRAM, mishaps 'not connected'

Dear AFRO:

Your July 31, 1979 edition of the AFRO - AMERICAN newspaper contains a brief article on the AFRAM festival. The article indicates that the two drowning incidents of July 28th were unfortunate mishaps related to the festival.

While these were, indeed, tragic incidents, I must call to your attention that there was nothing to connect them with the AFRAM Festival. First, the incidents apparently occurred long after the Festival closed down for the evening. Secondly, the seawall is not in the area where the Festival was held.

While I cannot overlook the possibility that the victims could have attended the festival, I feel that it clouds the success of the event to imply that they were connected.

I sincerely hope that you will publish this letter in an effort to dispel the adverse affects of your article upon the citizens of this city

LENWOOD M. IVEY

AFRO welcomes letters

The AFRO welcomes letters from its readers. Letters should be brief and must bear the writer's name and address. All letters will be given consideration for publication.

Executive Director
Urban Services Agency

Tomorrow will be worse

Dear AFRO:

I want to feel those at the helm in Washington have my best interests in mind but some nights it's tough to fall asleep — I worry so.

But I don't reach for a sleeping pill. Instead I think of Dec. 7, 1941, and gradually I feel good all over - relaxed in the knowledge Hamilton Jordan had not yet been born, and not in charge, and I sleep peacefully.

We have so much to be thankful for. Let's enjoy today to the fullest, with all its problems, because tomorrow things will be worse, trust me!

B. J. SMALL

G. JAMES FLEMING

August has its merits

August is the vacation month. And the last two weeks of August are especially given to holiday-taking and holiday-making. This is a good time, therefore, for a last word on safety—on parents keeping an extra eye on their children at play; on autoists and cyclists being especially careful; and on householders exercising extra precaution against burglaries.

August and the summer's end is also a time when people are careless with fires and when fires may destroy both homes and forests. Only men and women can prevent these fires. Only a very few fires are "acts of God."

There was a time when August was also the season for a last fling by college students. But no more. Most colleges are now re-opened the third or last week in the month. We do not understand why.

Perhaps, college students do not need to work through Labor Day anymore. Perhaps they do not have to "work their way" through college anymore.

For those returning to college, or entering for the first time, there could be a hundred reminders and warnings, but we resist that temptation.

The best way to start a new school year, however, is to be present on the first day, to attend the first classes, to buy the required books before or after the first session and to attack homework from the beginning. Work deferred or postponed usually will plague a student for the rest of the semester or the rest of the school year.

What is true for college enrollees is also true for all other levels of students.

About those weekends and holidays: The gods created weekends and holidays for students and scholars—time to plan work ahead, to catch up on unfinished reading and writing, and to complete term papers. If weekends and holidays are wasted, there will be a heavy penalty to pay.

August is also a time when people lose their tempers easily. All of us need to be on the qui vive as individuals and groups. Most outbursts, of man against man, are not worth the effort. Or, said another way, there is another way to settle disputes besides taking the law into one's own hands.

Do not let the heat enrage us.

Back to schools and those who attend them, this time the younger folks.

August's end is a good time for parents to start shopping for their children's school clothing (if they have not taken in earlier sales). This pre-school shopping is an unusual event for the tots who are entering school for the first time.

Mothers and fathers, older brothers and sisters should pave the way, in thought, word and deed for the younger ones. These latter should feel themselves undergirded as they leave for school for the first time and as they return.

For all children, young and old, the entire family should show that they are interested; that they want to be helpful; and that they are willing to sacrifice, in order that each student may do and be his and her best. The importance of schooling and education should be stressed frequently.

Parents who visit their children's teachers and who attend PTA meetings, in a cooperative spirit, also help their children.

Parents who take their children to zoos, museums and to educational exhibits also help their children's education.

Parents who read with their children and who insist on budgeting their home's hours, so that there is time for their children to do their homework, are also living up to the highest calling of parenthood. Those parents who begin early in this pattern, will not have "problems" in later years.

A little preaching? Sorry.

June is important for weddings; December is celebrated for Christmas; spring has it pre-Lenten carnivals but August, as the French have known down the years, can be important too.

Who speaks for blacks?

By Cathy Pope Smith

Black people are in trouble. Unemployment among blacks is the highest in the nation of any group. More blacks are in prison than any other group. Living conditions for blacks are among the worst in the world.

The other day, I had an opportunity to visit a high - rise building in the Flag House housing project on East Lombard Street. I found that conditions under which the tenants were living to be appalling.

The building was manned by a security system of sorts. Young women sat inside a cage - like structure, and announced your arrival to the tenant via telephone.

The building itself was filthy.

Puddles of urine stifled your breathing, in the slow, decrepit elevators where the emergency alarm rang each time they stopped. Small children, elderly persons, young adults and parents jammed the elevators like cattle. Young men showed little or no respect toward older women. The buildings in the Flag House complex are 11 stories tall, and were cold, dark prison - like structures that hundreds of blacks called home.

It is understandable that people who live under such conditions have little or no interest in voting. Such living conditions mandate that the tenants focus on survival, that of necessity must be short - termed rather than future - oriented. Housing is just one area.

Who speaks for blacks—when the unemployment among blacks is the highest of any racial group, and for the black teen-ager for whom the rate is around 40 percent?

Visit any corner within the inner city during midday hours—the time when most people are working — and look at the young black men standing on those corners.

Don't bother to listen to the myths about blacks not wanting to work. Observe the labor pool agencies where men are hired on a first - come basis. Around six or seven o'clock in any morning, see how many men are begging for work. One must ask the question: "What about such high employment among young blacks during the high, summer months that are approaching? Will black youths be cool when they have nowhere to go, and nothing to do?"

Conditions for blacks in most areas seem vaguely similar to those of blacks in the 1950s. This country has come full circle, and the wave of conservatism that is sweeping the nation and the world is strangely reminiscent of an earlier time when blacks represented the underclass.

With the return of the classic struggle between whites and blacks in the country, one must ask this crucial question: "Who speaks for blacks?"

Apparently, no one! The white liberals have gone off to fight the battle of equal rights for women, nuclear energy and the environment. Politicians have realized that blacks will not vote in a bloc—not even in local elections —and, the black activists, for the most part, are tired, dissipirted and demoralized because of their realization of the enormity of the problem.

Who speaks for blacks in Baltimore? This question is rhetorical in nature since Baltimore, like other urban areas, suffers from a vacuum in black leadership.

Black leadership in Baltimore City is in a chaotic state, and rather than unite and work together to develop common goals, black leaders are feuding.

This leadership struggle or power play has existed among Blacks since slavery, and was introduced in those days as the "house n— - field n— syndrome."

The so - called "house n—" had been called by various names: "Uncle Tom," "Establishment Blacks," and "oreo."

The "field nigger" counterpart — through the ages — has had less definitive labels. Blacks who struggle, rhetorically, against the system are called activist, radical or militant.

The struggle in the early 1900s was perpetuated by Congressman William L. Dawson of Chicago, and Adam Clayton Powell of New York in the 1940s. In the 1960s, the struggle for leadership was exemplified by Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King. One wonders why blacks see these leaders as enemies or leaders of irreconcilable groups. Is it because the white press has taught blacks to choose one or the other? Is it because the black leaders themselves cannot share the role of leadership? Is it because blacks have carefully been taught how to become and remain separate so that little or no gains will be attainable?

It appears to me that both leadership styles serve a real purpose in the black man's struggle to be free. If only those parties leading the struggle could formulate such an agreement to work together for the common goal, no matter what method they chose to accomplish their goals.

While the labels are not as widely used in Baltimore as they were earlier, the schism that exists is no less real.

In this city, various factions representing differing points of view refuse to meet in order to plan strategies to help black people. The question still remains: Who speaks for blacks?

Blacks in responsible positions are too busy identifying, classifying, and calling names to get on with the business of black people — more jobs, better education and living conditions, equal justice and better health care.

Blacks must throw away such labels as "uncle Tom," "activists" and "militants", and realize that most blacks are generally working toward the same goal—improved living conditions for blacks. Ministers, politicians, educators, businessmen, civic leaders — all must cease tms name - calling, stop looking for reasons for divisiveness and concentrate on the business of black folks.

ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

By Elizabeth M. Oliver, City Editor

THE BEST STORY we have ever done is the one about the AFRO's long time friends, a couple married 50 years Sunday, Aug. 12. The unusual people are William A. Harris and his wife Hilda Henson Harris of Catonsville.

ACTUALLY, the story is based on Mr. Harris' own narrative of their wonderous life together, from beginning to now. Sunday will be spent in Frederick, Md. with an old Army buddy of his.

EARLY THIS WEEK I received a letter from Mr. Harris which tells of his first visit to Baltimore at Christmas, 1928 when he met Miss Hilda Henson just before she finished Douglass High. They were married eight months later.

MR. HARRIS weaves the most facinating story from then on and it's filled with facts since as he says, he has the memory of an elephant. He and his wife have lived 38 years in the Catonsville home they built. They have a pet dog and a 16 - year - old Dodge.

Their garden is all a - bloom now, what with plenty rain, and Mr. Harris attends to everything outside, rabbits for sale to a private company, cutting grass, polishing up the windows.

He states, "Since I retired from 30 years at the Post Office, my wife has never made a kitchen maid of me. She does everything inside. I do all the rest. We love and respect each other."

A lover of music, Mr. Harris plays the piano and organ and during World War II when John H. Murphy III and his family lived in Catonsville, he taught the Murphy daughter Sharon music.

WE LEAVE THE HARRISES now to do a story with photos later. P.S. In his letter, Mr. Harris gives regards to his AFRO favorites: Madeline Murphy, Marie Cooke Braxton, Cong. Parren J. Mitchell and our all We Know column he reads every week.

ANOTHER personality hard to beat is Mrs. Mattie Pree who on Thursday, Aug. 9 was among the Housing and Community Development (HCD) honorees at a buffet at the beautiful West 20 residence for senior citizens.

Mrs. Pree is an AFRO Honor Roll member having been in business 50 years at the time she received this highest honor along with the governors, mayors and other persons we have cited since Dr. Carl Murphy's time.

Mrs. Pree, a Christian Science practitioner, is the librarian at Hollendar Ridge Apartments and probably the most interesting person you could ever meet.

Her business was hat - making. She is still an ace at this profession.

However, lately she has bought a new - fangled sewing machine that makes button holes and puts in hems and does other magical things.

HER STORY to come soon with photos, will make inspirational summer reading. Watch for it.

SEWING is therapy and although I am no seamstress by any means, I have an overwhelming desire to make quilts. I believe I'll get one of those magical sewing machines and get down to it one day.

FOR MANY YEARS I have had a hobby of collecting unusual pieces of material all over the world in my travels. I have them tucked away in all kinds of places, waiting for when I have time.

MY DESIGNS stored away in my mind will be African since my African blood makes me love high color and mystical combinations. If I ever stop working, I could make a fortune off my quilts. Want to bet?

ONE DAY when you hear about it, you'll want one of my quilts and I'll be weaving a lot of happiness into each stitch making them for you.

DON'T YOU HAVE a long list of things you want to do, to invent and to fashion, all stored away in your mind?

DON'T YOU KNOW that handmade things make the most money? Don't you know the most contented persons are those who have a hobby which consumes all leisure time and brings the greatest satisfaction and happiness?

WHY DON'T YOU TRY to get with your hobby and since times ahead may be hard (The Recession) make some extra coins from your dream job.

LET ME KNOW and we'll write about it!

MOST OF TODAY'S miraculous inventions stemmed from hobbies. Einstein fooled around with figures, numbers, mathemical formulas and developed his Theory of Relativity from the dust of his dreams about space.

George Washington Carver loved the peanut and saw in it marvelous possibilities. Neither of those persons was a Straight - A student but in fact almost "uneducated."

THE AFRO's 87th Birthday is a great occasion for all black Americans. We are the voice of the black citizen who cannot get his story told anywhere else.

OH, YEA, sometimes the white press will print your wedding or funeral but it's always in the smallest possible corner, as if ashamed to let regular white readers know they're printing black news. (You know of

THE AFRO was found by Grandfather John H. Sr., who like many Baltimoreans felt the prejudice because of race.

IT WASN'T TOO LONG A Baltimore was a hell - hole against black citizens in schools, hotels, dining roo the white press went righ with all those dastardly pra

THERE IS STILL a born amount of hating done under here and you still need the A tell your real side of the st give you a chance to let it a out.

REALLY, there is hardly that goes by that we don't perience subtle, sneaky pre so you need your own speaking for you.

WE ARE, as black citizens, bottom in terms of jobs, edu and opportunities although th are on the books. Pitifully, w the highest rating in cons beer, wine and whiskey recording business would die stopped buying albums. Lee Market would close if we s buying food. AND NOW, Holl would close down if we s going to the movies.

AND YET, we own not a bri a stone in these industries nor have our share of jobs in They only have use for our r After that we can go you where.

IN THE FUTURE, mak AFRO your voice as it was in to be in 1892, almost 88 year

Support the AFRO and ma AFRO support you. Allow us t you and you help us. The st you make your hometown the better job it will do for

ALIVE AND THRIVING go 88 years, the AFRO is the l employer of black citizens largest buyer of newsprint, i other supplies and the largest of newspapers printed predominantly black reade

HIGHLY RESPECTED, no one, the AFRO did $4 mil business the last year and is hands with corporation o John H. Murphy III, chairm the board; John J. Olive president; Mrs. Mae D secretary and George L treasurer.

SURVIVING is the hardest to do for any business.

FINANCIAL ADVISORS s must have enough money to with to hold out three to five To start and keep a new going even 10 years it takes million, friends, advertisers to insert ads, workers like ters, printers and craftsme experience.

THE AFRO has (as an exa many employees who have w over 40 years without sto There is the heart of any bus the faithful employees who cease working.

P.S. LET US HAVE your ho all of you good friends and rea Don't forget.

—More Letters—

Registration, yes; draft, no

Very soon this nation will be engulfed by a national debate over reinstitution of peacetime registration. It is vital that all sides of the issues be aired openly, but debates must be held in an atmosphere of reason.

In these debates, Congress should address two questions: To what extent is an enhanced mobilization capability necessary to the national security? Is peacetime registration necessary to achieve it?

An Armed Forces Committee report states: "It should be clear that the all volunteer force is a peacetime concept that is not now providing sufficient numbers of reserve personnel and would be hard pressed to provide additional numbers of active force levels." Citing the alarming shrinkage of the reserve force, the committee said "the Selective Service System should resume registering and classifying potential draftees so that in an emergency it could deliver personnel to the services quickly."

The Pentagon estimates it will take four months for the first draftee to be processed from the "deep standby" conditions under which Selective Service is now operating. After 100 days of training, a total of seven months would elapse before trained draftees would be moved to battle areas. The Army is about half a million men short in its Ready Reserves against an anticipated requirement needed to bridge that, seven months gap.

We must reactivate Selective Service and commence registration again. Such registration while not solving the lack of pretrained manpower in the Ready Reserve pool, will reduce by three months the time required to get the first replacements into our training centers.

We have only to look at the continuing events in the Middle East and Persian Gulf areas to realize how fragile our world order is. However, the major direct challenge to our nation remains the Soviet Union. It is the vast growth in their conventional forces that has been of particular concern to this country. They have the capability to launch a major attack on Western Europe with very little warning. Military power will remain an essential component of foreign affairs and, irrespective of agreements such as SALT II, sizeable amounts of our national resources will always be needed to maintain the security of our nation.

Awareness of such a state of unreadiness gives fuel to a popular conviction held abroad that the United States is not ready to stand up for its interest throughout the world. We must be perceived throughout the world to have the incontestable national will to resort to the use of force should our vital national interest be in jeopardy. This uncertainty encourages rival nations to more hostile behavior; thus, adding greatly to the possibility of war.

The guard and reserve units are considerably below the minimum acceptable peacetime strengths, let alone their effective wartime strengths. Were a major contingency to develop, we would have to mobilize quickly. This fact has compounded the need for truly Ready Reserves.

Peacetime registration will not by itself solve the problem, but it can make a crucial contribution. Registering, classifying and sending the first draftee to basic training would take 110 days, and by that time the enemy might have scored major victories in a European ground war.

In Europe the Soviets are completely prepared for Blitzkrieg-type warfare. If we cannot meet this mechanized attack with conventional forces that depend on manpower, NATO might be forced to the early use of nuclear weapons as the only option.

SAVING ENERGY

Appliance labeling program

About 8 percent of all the energy used in the United States goes into running electrical home appliances, so appliance use and selection can make a considerable difference in home utility costs.

Buying an energy - efficient appliance may cost a bit more initially but that expense is more than made up by reduced operating costs over the lifetime of the appliance.

Energy efficiency may vary considerably though models seem similar. In the next few years it will be easier to judge the energy efficiency of appliances with the Government's appliance labeling program.

In the meantime, wise selection requires a degree of time and effort.

— Don't leave your appliances running when they're not in use. It's a total waste of energy. Remember to turn off your radio, TV, or record player when you leave the room.

— Keep appliances in good working order so they will last longer, work more efficiently, and use less energy.

— When buying appliances, read labels carefully. Compare energy use information and operating costs of similar models by the same and different manufacturers. The retailer should be able to help you find the wattage of the appliance.

— Before buying new appliances with special features, find out how much energy they use compared with other, perhaps less convenient models.

A frost - free refrigerator, for example, uses more energy than one you have to defrost manually. It also costs more to purchase. The energy and dollars you can save with a manual - defrost model may be worth giving up the convenience.

Use appliances wisely; use the one that takes the least amount of energy for the job. For example; toasting bread in the oven uses three times more energy toasting it in a toaster.

— Don't use energy - cons special features on your app if you have an alternative.

For example, don't us "instant - on feature of your "Instant - on" sets, especia tube types, use energy ever the screen is dark.

Use the "vacation switch" have one, to eliminate this plug the set into an outlet controlled by a wall switch; o your TV service man inst additional on - off switch on itself or in the cord to th outlet.

This labeling program is designed to help consumers shop for energy - saving household appliances and equipment. It is being developed by the Department of Energy and the Federal Trade Commission as a result of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, signed into law on Dec. 22, 1975.

Under that law, manufacturers must place labels showing estimated annual operating costs on all models of the following:

Central air conditioners, clothes dryers, clothes washers, dishwashers, freezers, furnaces, home heating equipment, not including furnaces;

And, humidifiers (dehumidifiers, kitchen range ovens, refrigerators refrigerator freezers, room conditioners, television sets water heaters.

Appliance testing, labelin public information procedur currently being developed should be hearing about th pliance labels, as they b available in 1979, through G ment information programs.

For further information abo appliance labeling program, Conservation and Solar plications, U.S. Departme Energy, Appliance Pro Washington, D.C. 20545.

Broker objects to rent control

Dear AFRO:

I have just finished reading the August 4th, 1979 edition of the Baltimore AFRO - AMERICAN. In the "Opinion" column there appeared an article that was in favor of approving petitioning the rent control proposal referendum.

One of your conclusions is "Obviously, the principal beneficiaries of rent control would be low - income tenants who usually pay a disproportionate share of their income for rent, and who are most adversely impacted by rent increases"

In the New York City rent control experience the exact opposite is true. The poor and less wanted tenants have drifted into the housing dregs. The upwardly mobile blacks have trouble getting into desirable rent controlled buildings because the established tenants in possession do not want to give up desirable rental un

The landlord - tenant r ship, at present, is very c and often confusing for without skills and incom landlords without skill resources.

I truly appreciate the func a "free press" but I also fe the press should be respons

STANLEY E. SUGA