Baltimore Afro-American

# OPINION

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## Troy and Verda

State Sen. Verda C. Welcome and Del. Troy Brailey have been political allies and friends of long standing — both serving their 40th District constituents well over the years.

To see these two worthies in some disarray regarding their separate political agendas seems both rather unlikely and unnecessary to us.

Del. Brailey this week announced he will seek election to the Senate post now occupied by Mrs. Welcome. He cited an agreement he thought he had with the incumbent to the effect that when she stepped down, he would make his bid.

Sen. Welcome reacted by saying Brailey was mistaken, no such deal had been cut and that she was very much interested in holding onto the seat she has held going on four decades now.

Mrs. Welcome went further, saying if she did have notions of retiring she would rather see a woman pick up the reins.

Either way, Brailey finds himself boxed in.

Not that this is insurmountable. Brailey is perhaps the strongest friend in elected office insofar as organized labor is concerned. When he announced his candidacy, Brailey was flanked by some of the state's top labor leaders and key church persons.

Brailey, we feel, would not have taken this move had not he been convinced that Mrs. Welcome would indeed be willing to pass on the guantlet to him.

Ever the consumate politician, Mrs. Welcome obviously is not about to let her loyal lieutenant Brailey zoom out of the starting gate too fast, too soon.

Whatever the disagreement these two politicians have been able to work things out in the past with fondness.

We think they ought to sit down and clear the air, for themselves and more importantly, for the voters.

These two elected representatives just ought not be squabbling.

## Speedballing Belushi

John Belushi, the TV and movie comic, is determined to have died from an overdose of heroin and cocaine. Street junkies call this lethal high "speed-balling."

Very few street users can afford to "speedball" because of the expense involved.

On the other hand, high-powered show business personalities seem to think the use of exotic and super-costly drugs is their right by stint of their star status.

Comedians, nowadays, seem most vulnerable to drug abuse.

Freddie Prinze, the Hispanic comedian, blew his brains out while high.

Richard Pryor almost burned to death after attempting to "freebase" cocaine.

Flip Wilson was nabbed with dope.

George Kirby is doing heavy time for cocaine trafficking.

On weekly TV comedy shows such as ABC's "Friday" and NBC's "Saturday Night Live" (where Belushi came into prominence) dope jokes come out of the tube with unfailing regularity.

What is so horrifying about all of this is that both of these shows appeal to teens and sub-teens primarily.

This is a very impressionable age range and it does not help children or their parents when dope is made the subject of offhand comedy.

Belushi, we think, was a highly over-rated performer. Just the same his death of drug abuse is a tragedy and should have a sobering effect on Americans of all ages.

Chances are it will not, however, and hordes of young people will hold onto a deadly notion that when you become famous you should celebrate that fame by using drugs.

John Belushi, 33, had everything to live for, but he threw it all away with one "speedball."

Our concern is that many of his young fans might want to follow his tragic example.

## No wine before their time

The Maryland General Assembly apparently will raise the drinking age to 21 again.

We suspect a very strong and convincing mothers lobby had much to do with the lawmakers tilting toward forbidding teenagers wine (or other booze) before their time to paraphase the Orson Welles TV commercial.

We also think the drunk driving statistics for this state were another important consideration.

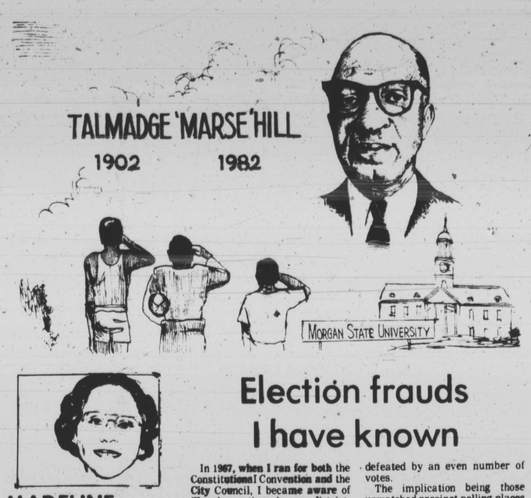
Alcohol abuse remains a grave problem here and nationally.

We are not all that encouraged that setting an arbitrary age limit on when one can legally imbibe is going to make a significant inroads into this problem.

Especially as some lawmakers pointed out, Maryland teens can go into the District of Columbia and legally purchase spirits that will be denied them in their home state.

Drinking remains a tragic problem for too many citizens of all ages.

Rearranging the legal age is little more than a bandaid on a deep and grievous wound.






MADELINE

## MURPHY

# Election frauds I have known

Joseph Murphy, 6th District City Councilman, was buried a week or so ago.

Now it is up to the remaining two councilmen from that district to recommend his successor to the Council, whereupon the Mayor will appoint their candidate to fill Murphy's unexpired term — such is the power of councilmanic privilege.

I recently have been involved with a group of people, most notably the NAACP and the Welfare Rights organization, to insure since the 6th District is at least 40 percent black, a black person must fill that seat.

Considering the racism and corruption in this district, it is only natural, however, to believe this will be a miracle if it happens.

In 1970, after several blatant irregularities in the elections of Parren J. Mitchell, Congress (7th-D), Milton Allen for States Attorney, Paul Chester, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, and William Murphy, Sr., District Court Judge, I wrote a journal listing the illegal practices I had experienced, making it also a primer for others wishing to run for political office.

It was entitled: "Election Frauds I Have Known," which detailed the kinds of corrupt election practices used in 1967.

These same practices spilled over into the 1970 primary, but did not deter the subsequent challenges made at the Supervisors of Elections, that brought about the overwhelmingly successful elections of Mitchell, Allen, Chester and Murphy.

Therefore, I am submitting it here to reveal to voters and candidates alike, especially in the 6th District, the kind of corruption they might encounter should any black candidate attempt the race for City Council in 1983; the need for an intelligent electorate including well trained challengers and watchers; and reforms that must be made statewide to insure democratic elections.

In 1967, when I ran for both the Constitutional Convention and the City Council, I became aware of illegal practices in my district, the 6th District, on Election Day.

At that time, we became aware of our threat to the bosses, when two days before election, 13 of the 33 changes in polling places citywide occurred, in the 6th District, from public places to houses and barber shops - 38 percent.

The following events seem to have been the preliminaries, "the training ground," for corrupt practices, before the "main bout" Sept. 15, 1970.

I recall calling the newspapers, alerting them to these irregularities and also writing to Governor Agnew, but to no avail! Nobody cared!

Nevertheless, we were flexible and out of 68 precinct polling places, we had challengers and watchers in 35. Heaven only knows what happened in the other 33 — I know I LOST!

These are some of the irregularities which we witnessed:

(1) Late opening of polling places;

(2) campaign literature freely distributed in the polling places and tacked to the door;

(3) open discussion of opposing candidates and electioneering for the incumbents in the polling places;

(4) rounding up voters in the neighborhood to vote and giving them white envelopes — money?

(5) A 500 percent increase in the vote count between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. in a polling place while the challenger was out to lunch.

(6) One judge going into a booth to show a voter how to vote on the grounds of illiteracy when the voter easily signed her name on the card;

(7) the rights of watchers were ignored. They were not given the courtesy of a seat, the use of the toilet or phone.

In some instances, as in the 10th Precinct, 25th Ward, in Cherry Hill, were reported to the police, the Clerk of the Elections Board, the Republican Precinct Executive and threatened with eviction, even when the law was shown to them book, line and verse in the challenger's favor.

(8) Vote returns from precincts, where there were no watchers, were reported late and the independent candidate was defeated by an even number of votes.

The implication being those unwatched precinct polling places had an opportunity to get an early count from the radio and to pad the vote to their benefit.

Prior to election day, police were seen tearing down signs in and on bars and store windows.

In two cases, if it were not so tragic, it would have been hilarious, the following conversations were heard: FIRST INSTANCE - Washington Boulevard: Incumbent: "Those G— D— black n——s are coming out like flies voting for that G— D— Madeline W. Murphy!"

Judge: Making motion toward a fair-skinned Negro watcher. "She's got challengers around."

Incumbent: "I don't give a G— D——."

Judge: Clearing his throat and pointing to challenger, "I mean over there."

Incumbent: "OH, I see what you mean," making a hasty retreat out the door.

Note: He did not return to the polling place, even after closing.

SECOND INSTANCE:

Precinct Worker, rushing into Barber Shop—Polling Place: "The n——s in Cherry Hill are voting like mad. We've got to do something!"

One of the judges produces some white envelopes and the precinct worker begins walking up and down the street handing them out to people sitting on the steps in the sunny, 90 degree weather.

As the group begins to file in, the envelope holders are overheard asking: "Who do we vote for?" The judges respond by handing out literature for the incumbents.

THIRD INSTANCE:

When the police picked up returns at the closing of the polls at a school in the south west Baltimore near Scott Street, one of the challengers followed them.

The police stopped at the home of the District's then State Senator before they took them to the Fifth Regiment Armory for tabulation. No one of course, knows how the returns were tampered with since I had been reported ahead in the tallies up to that point, but then came in fourth in a field of 10.

Next week: Part II Challengers and Watchers.

PARREN J.

## MITCHELL

# International dangers

The woes imposed by resurgent and the calculated cruelty of Reagan's budget cuts cause many blacks to ignore the dreadful trend in international develpments which seem to lead America, inevitably, into a war.

The Middle East is one of the dangerous areas of tension. It is clear Reagan does not yet have a Mid-East policy.

He is wooing the moderate Arab states, while articulating an irrevocable alliance with Israel. The present administration is playing the game of courting new Arab friends, while trying to retain friendship with Egypt and Israel.

The greatest threat to world peace is the tension between the Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel. Beyond a shadow of any doubt, Israel wants to launch a series of pre-emptive strikes against the PLO.

The key to the Middle East is Egypt. Unlike Sadat, President Mubarak, though committed to the Camp David agreements, is willing to pursue a policy of non-alignment.

Unlike Sadat, Mubarak appears totally committed to establishing an independent, free nation of Palestine. In sharp contrast to Sadat, Egypt's present President, is unwilling to play the role of U.S. intervener in the Mid - East, and it is patently clear he intends to return Egypt to full partnership with the Arab states.

Recently, along with other Members of Congress, I had a chance to meet and talk with President Mubarak.

This man is a force to be reconded with.

Based on our conversation, I am convinced his highest priorities are:

(1) To make Egypt economically strong, thus reducing the tensions between the haves and have-nots of Egypt.

(2) To return Egypt to the Arab world where it has been a pariah since the Camp David accords.

(3) To prove to the world Egypt is not owned and controlled by America or the Soviets.

Within this context, America no longer can continue to play the diplomatic game it has been playing in the Mid-East.

A false move by the U. S. could trigger our involvement in a war in that part of the world, a war in which young black men would fight and die disproportionately as they did in Vietnam.

## Letters

# Minorities, women losing needed state jobs

Dear AFRO:

Minority and women employees are losing the benefits of working for the State of Maryland in increasing numbers.

The State of Maryland insists on continuing the wide-spread practice of contracting out service oriented jobs to private contractors. One hundred thirty-nine housekeeping employees, who now are merit system employees will lose their jobs and be given two options.

One is to go to work for the private contractor and continue to perform the same work for NO BENEFITS at their present level of salary for ONLY six months.

The other alternative would be to join the ranks of the unemployed.

Dietary employees, who feed patients in our State hospitals and other State institutions also are facing the same situation.

These jobs, which are held predominately by blacks and women employees have been an avenue of gainful employment for these workers.

Many of these employees, who already are some of the lowest paid workers in State service, depend upon these jobs and benefits to feed, clothe and educate their families.

Why must minority employees be the sole target for supposed budget savings?

Now that Maryland is facing high unemployment and our State is losing jobs, these employees have no future but to either receive unemployment checks or substandard wages and no benefits from private contractors who are exploiting these victimized employees.

The record is replete with facts to show blacks, women and other minority employees with many years of State service are being shut out of the merit system.

While the government is concerned about affirmative action in professional and skilled employment, we are sorry the present administration is overlooking a large work force (housekeeping, dietary, maintenance, etc. workers) who are just as important to our society today as any other white collar worker.

They, too, should have the right to receive the benefits that State employment gives its workers.

CURTIS C. JOHNSON
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

# The education of our children

By Marion Banfield

Suppose we got emotionally involved in the education of our children. Suppose we quit spending money and emotions on punishment and jails.

Suppose we decided to offer children schools that met the needs of individual children. Suppose churches focused on family life for the welfare of children.

Well, if all that were to occur, we would not be in the wasteful, destructive mood of building more and more prisons.

It is amazing that we talk and preach about crime and spread so little energy on dealing with some of the known roots of crime.

Reaganites are not the only ones unwilling to pay for education, but enthusiastic about throwing juveniles and adults into jails. Some who shout for prayers in school, have no intention of supporting the school system's need for personnel enough to assure even elementary school children a firm educational foundation.

Class sizes in private schools are often limited to 15. Which public school system ever got that serious about teaching and learning?

Politicians will not vote for prisons in their districts. How about voting for public schools geared to meet the needs of children and teachers.

Just observe how teachers have to manage primary grade classes. There are groups and sub-groups. Then what happens to the youngsters who have normal mentality, but are emotionally incapable of conforming to classroom systems?

The child gets sent out of the room or sits away from others. The teacher pleads for help. Who is there to help? Who is trained to help? What is available to diagnose what help will make a difference?

When we vent our anger at vicious or mean juveniles, remember they were not born that way. You can walk into a classroom, watch the faces and behavior of youngsters who even in primary grades show signs of potentially ending up in jails or mental institutions.

# Where is the public outcry about the recent local television program?

Dear AFRO:

On March 11, 1981, Evening Magazine on Channel 13 had a segment which portrayed the same person recently engaged at the Baltimore Hilton, doing the same act.

At that time, in addition to writing to the AFRO in protest of this showing, I wrote letters to the TV station, the NAACP, the Sun papers, the News American, Paul Yates-General Manager of WJZ, Bill Johnson-Producer of Sunday Live and to the African American News and World Report.

The only response I got or read was in the AFRO. I also received a reply from WJZ producer of Evening Magazine, Mark Bowllan.

I am not surprised at this happening at the Hilton, mainly because there was no public outcry at the TV showing of this act.

I would like to believe I was not the only black watching the show that night that made some gesture against it. Perhaps I was.

Maybe if enough attention had been given the show and what was portrayed that night, this would not have happened. If the public had acknowledged the fact this type of racism will not be tolerated, may be this would not have happened.

White America is really trying black America, a little at a time. If the NAACP had not acted quickly with the Hilton Hotel fiasco, the next incident, and I am sure there would be one, would be larger. We, blacks, have to realize they are out to get us.

The current administration in charge of this country has given whites the go ahead and if we let our guard down one second, we've had it.

This is a prime example.

That show came from Highlandtown to Downtown. I am sure this is not the end.

We need to wake up our legislators, local, State and Federal. We need to get a message across to them that they are in the position to do something and we want it done.

We also have to remind them of the power of the vote and then get out and do something about it.

EDNA SIMMONS

Samuel

## BANKS

# Blacks and education: a continuing necessity

Historically, our forebears have striven, in season and out of season, to secure a solid and strong program of education at all levels.

It is highly significant following the end of the Civil War in 1865, large droves of the 4.5 million slaves, who were set free by virtue of the national adoption of the 13th Amendment, flocked to church supported and make-shift schools.

There was a driving and impelling desire for education. The reason, then, as is true now was simple: EDUCATION IS THE PASSPORT TO SUCCESS IN OUR SOCIETY.

Today, the 4.5 million black Americans have grown to 31 million. The thirst for knowledge, even in arduous and perplexing times, remains powerful and vibrant.

More than eight million black children and youths are enrolled in the nation's network of 16,000 public school districts serving 45 million students; black youths constitute 1.1 million of the 12 million youths enrolled in more than 3,300 institutions of higher education; and approximately 110 predominately black colleges and universities, in spite of Reaganomics and institutional racism, survive.

The road ahead, nonetheless, is stony and stormy: black children and youths constitute a disproportionate number of the 2 million school drop-outs annually.

Black youths continue to do poorly on the Army Qualification Test as witnessed by the recent Washington Post article, Sunday, Feb. 12. Money for college loans and fellowship are drying up. Pell grants for low-income students have been reduced drastically.

Black youths continue to perform poorly on standardized tests and professional examinations, such as bar examinations, Graduate Record Examination, Law School Aptitude Test, Medical School Aptitude Test, Miller Analogies Test for graduate school.

More than half of the black students, who enter predominantly white community colleges and 4-year institutions, never graduate. Blacks constitute less than four percent of the enrollment in the nation's doctoral and professional programs.

Our work, as we observe the close of the special observance of Black History Month, is "cut out" for us. It is time, especially in the early grades for us to get serious.

We now must acquire the skills, knowledge and attitude necessary for success in the larger society. We must embrace the timeless spirit of our forebears in daring and working to survive and moving forward with purpose and dignity in the American social order.

The Washington Post article depicting the test data acquired by the Pentagon relative to approximately 12,000 young black and white men and women merits further comment.

The Pentagon spent $3.5 million to ascertain whether the military services were filling slots in the all-volunteer military force with sub-par or below average youths.

The study was given approval in 1979 and showed the average percentage for blacks, whites and hispanics on tests of "developed ability" in mathematics and reading was as follows:

Blacks 24 percent; Hispanics 31 percent; and whites 56 percent.

The tests were not intended to measure natural intelligence or the ability to learn. In point of fact, "developed ability" refers to what has been taught and internalized or learned by an individual over a period of time.

In spite of this, it is highly probable the historic detractors of blacks and Hispanics will attempt to use the test data showing "developed ability" to advance their spurious and fallacious genetic inferiority arguments.

The test data indicate, in fact, two salient and disquieting issues: (1) the continuation of separate and unequal schooling and societies, and (2) the urgent need to upgrade and demand higher educational performance in schools which are predominantly black and Hispanic.

Additionally, the test data provided stark and chilling evidence of an exacerbation of socio-educational opportunities under Reaganomics.

The socio-economic evidence is clear and incontrovertible the economic programs of Reaganomics are contributing to a deepening and widening and social underclass in our nation.

Since the economic situation will not improve in the foreseeable future, it is imperative, as in the past, black and poor people make a stronger effort to keep their spirit and become, even in the presence of institutional racism and exclusion, more competitive.

High quality education and the judicious use of the ballot are essential elements in terms of gaining substantive entrance into our nation's economic mainstream.

I strongly recommend the following for your consideration:

(1) A firm and unyielding insistence of the highest quality of education for your child. This means you must, for the sake of your child, visit the school and become involved in the activities of the school.

Work closely with your child's teacher-teachers, principal and support staff.

(2) Chart your child's reading and proficiency in other subject areas very closely. IF YOUR CHILD HAS NOT MASTERED THE PROCESS OF READING OR IS NOT ON GRADE LEVEL BY THE FOURTH GRADE, HE OR SHE IS IN SERIOUS EDUCATIONAL TROUBLE.

You should be courteous, insistent and thorough in making certain all of the resources of the school, school system and community are brought to bear in helping your child.

(3) MAKE THE READING HABIT A RITUAL IN YOUR HOME. If you cannot afford to purchase newspapers, arrange to read at a nearby library.

YOU, TOO, SHOULD BORROW BOOKS AND INSIST YOUR CHILDREN BORROW BOOKS OF THEIR CHOOSING FOR READING.

(4) Insist your children are taught and speak standard English. The use of standard English, the language spoken by the majority group, is the route to access and power in our nation.

Although it is grotesquely unfair and unequal because of gross denial and exclusion for more than three centuries, we must meet and surpass the challenge of standardized and proficiency tests or tests of "developed" abilities."

High quality education continues to be the passport to success in our society. Let us seize it firmly and enthusiastically.

## Tony Brown's Comments

# My interview with the President

President Ronald Reagan has given, to my knowledge, four one-on-one television interviews: Barbara Walters, Ben Wattenberg, Dan Rather and I were the recipients. And, predictably, each of us carried our traditional baggage of issue interests with us.

Walters concentrated on human interest, Wattenberg on conservatism, Rather on generic news issues and Brown on black public affairs. Our interview strategies also varied.

It clearly is not my job as a journalist to persuade people to like or dislike President Reagan or his policies, but to present the information necessary for their decision making.

In that context, I am satisfied I asked the right questions; questions that forced the President of the United States to focus on the pain of 30 million Americans who suffer at the hands of their own government.

Neither did the White House attempt to impose any editorial restrictions, nor would I have accepted any. Likewise, the President and his staff never were made aware of my strategy NOT to ask follow-ups.

Since the President had never been interviewed by a black journalist, my objective was to put his views on black Americans on the record.

Secondly, my time with him was limited to 30 minutes to record a 30 minute program. These two facts, therefore, decided my strategy would be to ask as many questions as possible—without time consuming follow-up questions.

In comparing my interview with Dan Rather's CBS interview with President Reagan, Washington Post columnist William Raspberry, noted Rather and Brown got pretty much the same treatment for a similar question.

However, Rather — employing abundant follow-up questions in an hour show— got the point in six minutes and I got it in one.

The bottom line always is the politician's insistence on putting the best face on his or her point of view and, depending on your time allotment and or skills, you can get the same answer in 10 minutes or two.

In another situation and with more time, I would have, as I normally do, asked follow-up questions. In this instance, in a half-hour program taped to time, I asked and received 16 answers to 16 questions—perhaps a record.

If I had, for example, spent more time with re-asks on black unemployment or social programs—and he had rebutted extensively— I would not have been able to cover, for example, apartheid in South Africa, black colleges or several other topics at all.

However, some journalists confused their personal malice towards Reagan or his policies with my professional journalistic objectives. The most conspicuous of this genre is a Washington Post Writer, who obviously needed to attack Reagan and simply found my interview a convenient vehicle.

Lee Lescaze, in a news editorial which appeared in the Washington Post Style section—in Janet Cooke style—reviewed his own imagination. R. Archer wrote from Washington:

"I read Lee Lescaze's article before I saw the show. After I watched it, I wondered what show he had seen."

Furthermore, other White reporters in Washington now are openly complaining of "increasingly limited access to the President." Of course, black reporters, until now, never have had access to one.

Perhaps feeling his terrain had been invaded and obviously in agreement with Time magazine's assertion that Reagan, at press conferences, is "ducking the issues," Lee Lescaze may have decided my role was to exercise his white racial, political and professional anxieties and demonstrate when a black slipped through racism's news "safety net," he was obliged to do white folks' dirty work for them.

If all of the white reporters, networks, magazines, news reporters, wire service and an overwhelming white liberal bias cannot "catch" Reagan, why should I be EXPECTED to do so?

After years of fighting their exclusion of me and other blacks from the news world, why should I make their white-bias my black priority?

However, my successful and historic journalistic coup did not go unnoticed by other journalists. "Hard-hitting," the world's largest circulated daily newspaper, the Daily News, called the program.

World renowned syndicated columnist, Harriet Van Horne, made this observation: "A courteous but tough questioner."

Newsday's headline put it in a historical context: "TV's 'Black-beat' Scores a Reagan Scoop."

Dr. Douglas Glassglow, author of "The Black Underclass," wrote: "Liked the perceptive questions, and recognized the constraints placed on you by presidential protocol; nevertheless very impressive."

TONY BROWN'S JOURNAL, the television series, can be seen on public television Monday, on channel 22 at 10:30 p.m. It can also be seen on channel 67, Mon. at 10:30 p.m. Please consult listings.

ELIZABETH M.

## OLIVER

# For all we know

You have to be elected to take a seat in Annapolis

All seats are declared vacant at the end of the term

By Elizabeth M. Oliver
City Editor

YOU CAN NOT RUN for anybody's seat in the Senate nor in the House of Delegates in the state of Maryland.

ALL SEATS ARE DECLARED VACANT by law when Dec. 31, 1982 comes. If you have filed for any seat, anybody may run. All seats are vacant. Each senator, each delegate becomes "seatless" at the end of the term. You must run legally or forget it.

This is according to the State Supervisors of Elections.

DEL. TROY BRAILEY filed at 6 p.m. March 8 for candidacy for the State Senate, according to law.

THE LAW

The Supervisors of Elections laws are as follows:

1. You must appear in person at that office which is No. 11 Bladen St. in the Old Armory in Annapolis.

2. You must sign the Financial Disclosure Statement. In other words, state all your assets, money property, all that.

3. You must state your age, address, if you are a registered voter, a citizen of at least one year in Maryland.

4. You must be a resident of your district at least six months and at least 25 years of age.

5. You must name your treasurer and your chairman.

6. You must file before the deadline, 9 p.m. July 6, 1982 or else you are automatically out of a seat if you had one; and you can not run.

7. You must pay $50 cash.

8. There are no exceptions to the law.

EXPLANATION: Should you, by chance, have been reelected every year for 50 years, your seat will be declared vacant on Dec. 31, 1982 and you have to start all over and run again as if you have never held a seat. You can not be an incumbant. There is no such (although you may hope so or wish to be or wish you were).

FRED BANQUET

THE FRED BANQUET is set for the Hilton, 7 p.m. Thursday, March 18, with all the same flourish and grandeur as through the years.

THIS SPLENDID AFFAIR for the benefit of the Baptist Aged Home on Rayner Ave. is called FRED — the initials for Fire, Renovation and Expansion Drive. is headed by Rev. Lorenzo Graves, Rev. C. C. Alexander, Mrs. Bessie Mason, Mrs. Mary Harrington, Rev. Roy B. Johnson and Rev. Matthew Silver who is head of all Maryland Baptists.

OVER 1,000 GUESTS will be present. The program is always highly interesting and the evening an enjoyable one, I know.

CALENDAR

TONIGHT, Friday, the Howard U. Alumni has its annual dinner dance at the Fontaine Rouge.

SATURDAY at 7, the U. of MD Black Law Students honor Cong. Parren J. Mitchell at the Hilton ballroom.

SUNDAY at 7:30 p.m. comes the banquet in honor of Del. and Mrs. Frank M. Conaway at Martins West.

MARCH 17, St. Patricks Day, is the day when you can plant anything and regardless of snow, freezing temperatures sleet or hail, the plants will flourish. The earth is turning warmer every day, so don't worry.

COMING UP NOW are tulips, lilies of the valley, crocus, daffodils and all such bulbs which can hardly be frozen out by the deepest winter. In fact, the almanac says those bulbs require a hard frost in the ground from October 15 on until spring.

GOOD FISHING NOW

THE LENTEN SEASON is always good fishing time, go out just before sunrise and just before sunset for a good catch. Still water is best. Now through May 7 is best.

SMOKE EXTRA FISH

WHAT TO DO with extra fish? Either give them away or put them in the freezer. But, why not smoke some?

Here is an old method from the almanac.

This method of preparing fish has been used for centuries.

WHAT KIND

Either game fish, or the scavenger species may be smoked, but the most suitable types are those with an oily flesh: — trout, salmon, cisco, white fish, carp, and even lamprey eels when fresh.

METHOD

There are two methods of smoking: the cold process requires a five day period for completion, the hot process requires only two or three hours.

If you use the cold process you will be able to keep the end product almost indefinitely, if you use the hot process you can keep the fish no longer than two weeks.

For the beginner, the hot method is probably more satisfactory, because it requires a minimum time and talent.

As for the smoker, you can purchase one or try constructing one yourself. If you're a dyed - the - wool do - it - yourseller, you can construct one with materials readily available.

WHAT YOU NEED

Here is what you'll need for the project: (1) a new large metal garbage can with lid; (2) a piece of ½" mesh metal screening large enough to fit into the top of the can; (3) two ¼" metal rods long enough to fit across the top of the can with a little extra length to spare; (4) one foot of ½" electrical conduit; (5) a hot plate; (6) a cast - iron frying pan.

HOW TO

First, cut a hole 2" or 3" in diameter in the lid, and fasten on a closure flap with a rivet or bolt.

Next drill four ¼" holes about 5" below the top of the can to fit support rods into. Then cut the metal screening to fit into the can, laying it on top of the supporting rods.

Cut a ½" hole near the bottom of the can and insert the electrical conduit. Through the conduit run the electrical cord for the hot plate.

Set the iron frying pan on top of the hot plate. Fill it with wood chips and you are ready to begin the smoking process.

GREEN WOOD BEST

The choice of wood depends upon your own personal preference for flavor. Any fruit tree provides a rich quality, particularly apple or cherry. Other selections may be hickory, beach, alder, willow, birch, maple, oak, or corn cobs.

Or is better to use green wood, because you want a slowly smoldering fire, not one that will burst into flames.

Remember, you're smoking the fish, not baking it.

Ryales photo

DEL. TROY BRAILEY, the first to file for election to the State Senate, is shown signing the papers while Del. Isaiah Dixon looks on.

# Peer pressure and its causes

By Yahya B. A. Muhammad

Many parents have found themselves asking, "Where did I go wrong? What causes junior to go to others for advice instead of me? I just do not understand it."

A good place to start in trying to understand what caused junior to go elsewhere for aid and comfort is with yourself. Do we as adults and parents create the right environment for the proper development of our children?

Emphasis on proper standards of behavior develops attitudes of respect, cooperation and helpfulness in the child. The process should begin early, right from the time he is old enough to understand simple language.

These attitudes are built bit by bit, as one builds a wall brick by brick. They are the result of the closeness of relationship and love between parent and child.

The suggestion of awe with which the child regards his parents, his natural desire to please them, and his willingness to assume responsibility because they and the child feel him to be capable of it, helps to strengthen the process.

Parents must never forget to make these attitudes part of the daily life of the child right from the very beginning.

If this happens, the attitudes will develop normally along with the maturing body and mind of the child.

At first it may take coaxing, encouragement or making it fun, but little by little, as the child comes to realize he is an integral part of the family, he also begins to realize this relationship involves responsibility on his own part, as well as on the part of other children in the family.

A child who only expects and demands from his parents has not learned his rightful place in the circle of the family and the world.

If the child is to respect his parents, they too, must respect him. After all, he is an individual with inborn characteristics and capacities, likes, dislikes, and ideas of what he wants and how he feels things should be done.

This certainly does not imply that parents should give their child everything he wants, but they should treat the child in ways that are not offensive to the dignity of a human being.

They should take into account as much as possible the child's needs and feelings, even if the child is small.

Then what is discipline?

We know the child that does not receive adequate guidance and direction is unhappy and insecure. The child does not know the limits and the good and bad of things, and needs to be informed of them.

Discipline is a necessity, but it should be effective, should not break the child's spirit, and should motivate him or her to search for better ways of behavior.

The best means of discipline is consistency, firmness and a kind of loving approach. When a child's parents say yes to a request one moment and "no" the next, the child is bound to be confused by their inconsistency and does not learn the limits.

Similarly a child whose parents give in to all demands does not learn the limits and often tests reality, trying to see how far the parents can be pushed before they will restrain him or her.

Such children are quite insecure because they do not yet have the capacity to control their own behavior by themselves. Until they develop they depend on the authority of parents to set and enforce limits on them.

Many parents are prone to scolding and belittling a child to get the child to do what they want. Perhaps especially with the first child, who is the guinea pig on whom they are testing their techniques of child rearing.

All of us know these are not effective or useful methods for accomplishing our goals. They do not help in building the kind of parent-child relationship which we desire.

A child is as much entitled to feelings as an adult, and when the child is full of anger or misery, the parent should show understanding of how the child feels, help him or her express negative feelings verbally.

But parents also should insist the child does not act them out. The calm, passionate understanding of the parent and the child's verbalization of negative feelings will be a great help to the youngster and will bring him or her closer to the parents.

When we, as parents, conduct ourselves in this manner, we will find out children are seldom influenced by peers. In fact, they will be the ones doing the influencing, but in a positive manner.