Twilah Scarborough

TWILAH SAYS. . .

SCHOOL COMMITMENT

The Mount Royal Elementary Middle School strives for "Excellence."

Talking about education and devoted participation, well there was profound proof at the Mount Royal Elementary Middle School. It all happened just recently.

Talking about great hidden talent, well it certainly was exposed to the utmost. On the program there were performances by the students, teachers and administrators doing their finest in displaying their latest in music, drama, poetry and dancing. The Mount Royal School demonstrated its commitment to "Excellence." Black American History in all steps and educational areas was stressed.

There were many talents of the young people demonstrated by various ways through their own style in singing. On the program the greetings were by Shirley Briscoe with a musical selection by Delores Jones.

The occasion was presented by Judson Wood, the school's principal. Ann Gibson did poetry; Arthur Jenkins, staff and faculty provided musical selections, and a dramatic monologue was demonstrated by Bonita Lilly.

The Reverend David Malone of Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church gave the blessing.

Moving right along on this royal occasion, there were glimpses of truly gifted talent - talking about none other than Jonathan Nelson who gave a stirring solo rendition of "God Bless America."

Another highlight included the very important works of Councilwoman Jacqueline McLean who reminded us of the necessity of unity between the schools and the community to build a greater system for "Excellence."

Building "Excellence" and striving harder to reach out and bring the parents and our surrounding community together and united has been successful in all aspects. Our molding and building a great family at the Mount Royal Elementary Middle School has proved itself in some many speechless words.

Our VIP Guests on hand were Del. Kenneth Montague from the 44th District, Jessie Douglas, Executive Director, Central District Elementary Schools; Carol Stokes, 2nd District City Counwilwoman; Shelia Kolman, Special Assistant to the Superintendent of Public Information.

The whole day and the whole program would not have been complete without the school's gospel choir. A few of the faculty made up the mini-choir.

The day was a day to be long remembered. It might have been a day during the middle of the week, but church was brought right into the room that day.

Folks clapped continuously The Gospel Choir topped the day. The dining room and library were full and close to standing room. Lunch was served by teachers' aides and volunteer parents, along with the cafeteria crew. Ruby Fuller is Choir Director and Music Teacher.

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—Maryland's black judges

(Continued from Page 7)

City followed by his 1968 appointment as Judge of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City (now the Circuit Court). Elected to a fifteen-year term on the Circuit Court in 1970, Judge Watts served until resigning to engage in private practice for a local law firm.

JUDGE WILLIAM H. MURPHY, JR

Born in Wilmington, Delaware, Judge Murphy moved to Baltimore City in 1945 where he attended public schools. In 1957, Judge Murphy became one of the first black admitted to the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute where he studied mathematics, chemistry and physics.

Judge Murphy received his Juris Doctorate Degree (J.D.) from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1969 where he served as a member of the Maryland Law Review. Judge Murphy was elected Judge of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City in 1980. By winning this election, Judge Murphy became the youngest judge elected to the Circuit Court. He resigned from the Circuit Court in 1983.

JUDGE GEORGE L. RUSSELL, JR.

Born and raised in Baltimore, Judge Russell attended local public schools and graduated from Frederick Douglass Senior High School in 1946. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree (B.A.) in Economics from Lincoln University in Pennsyvlania (1950) and his Bachelor of Law Degree (L.L.B.) from the University of Maryland School of Law (1954).

Prior to his 1966 appointment as the First Black Judge of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City, Judge Russell's judicial career included Police Magistrate-at-Large for Baltimore City and Examiner and Master-In-Chancery, Circuit Court for Baltimore City. Following two years on the Bench (1966-1968), Judge Russell resigned to become the first black appointed City Solicitor for Baltimore (January, 1968).

JUDGE JAMES H. TAYLOR

Born in Elkridge, Maryland Judge Taylor attended Howard County public schools. Following his discharge from the United States Army Aircorps, Judge Taylor attended Howard University in Washington, D.C. for three years (1946-1949). He received his Juris Doctorate Degree (J.D.) in 1953 from American University, Washington College of Law and was admitted to the Maryland Bar in 1956.

He was appointed Master for Juvenile cases for the Prince George's County Juvenile Courts in December 1963 after serving as an Assistant State's Attorney, Prince George's County Office of the State's Attorney (1963-1966). Appointed Associate Judge of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County in 1969, Judge Taylor remained on the Bench until his retirement in October, 1987.

JUDGE JAMES L. BUNDY

Born and raised in Bluefield, West Virginia where he attended public schools, Judge Bundy graduated from Bluefield State College in June, 1942 with a Bachelor of Science Degree (B.S.) in Secondary Education.

Upon discharge from the Army, Judge Bundy was admitted to the University of Maryland School of Law and received his Juris Doctorate Degree (J.D.) in June, 1949.

He was appointed Associate Judge of the District Court of Maryland for Baltimore City twice (1974 and 1984) and retired from the Bench in September, 1986.

JUDGE WILLIAM H. MURPHY, SR.

Born and raised in Baltimore City, Judge Murphy attended local public schools and graduated from Frederick Douglass High School in 1935. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree (B.A.) in Economics in 1939 from Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio and his Bachelor of Law Degree (L.L.B.) from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1946.

Admitted to the Maryland Bar Association in 1947, Judge Murphy practiced private law until 1970 when he became the First Black Elected Judge of the Municipal Court for Baltimore City (now District Court of Maryland). Judge Murphy remained as Associate Judge of the District Court of Maryland for Baltimore City until his retirement in October, 1982.

JUDGE BENJAMIN L. BROWN

A native of Baltimore City, Judge Brown attended local public schools and graduated from Frederick Douglass High School in 1947. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree (B.A.) in Political Science in 1951 from Lincoln University in Pennsyvlania. Judge Brown received his Bachelor of Law Degree (L.L.B.) from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1959.

Judge Brown was appointed Deputy State's Attorney for the State's Attorney's office for Baltimore City in 1971. He was appointed Associated Judge of the District Court of Maryland for Baltimore City in 1973.

He was appointed City Solicitor for Baltimore City in 1974.

JUDGE NEAL M. JANEY

A native of Baltimore, Judge Janey attended local public schools and graduated from City College High School in 1966. He attended the University of Baltimore for one year (1967-1968) and received his Bachelor of Science Degree (B.S.) in Political Science from Morgan State University in 1971. Judge Janey earned his Juris Doctorate Degree (J.D.) from Harvard Law School in Cambridge, Massachusetts (1974).

Appointed Associated Judge of the District Court of Maryland for Baltimore City in 1980, Judge Janey retired from the Bench in 1986 to enter private practice with a local law firm. On January 4, 1987, Judge Janey was sworn-in as City Solicitor for Baltimore.

JUDGE BENJAMIN H. FOREMAN

Born and raised in Galveston, Texas, Judge Foreman attended parochial schools in his hometown before graduating from Central High School in 1931. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree (B.S.) in Biology in 1953 from Prairie View A&M College in Prairie View, Texas. Judge Foreman attended the University of Maryland School of Law and received his Bachelor of Laws Degree (L.L.B.) in 1951. Judge Foreman was sworn-in as the first Black Judge of the Orphans' Court for Baltimore City in December, 1971. Elected to the Orphans' Court for two terms following his appointment, Judge Foreman retired from the Bench in October 1981.

JUDGE ARCHIE B. WILLIAMS

Judge Williams was born and raised in Warren County, North Carolina where he attended public schools, graduating from Hawkins High School in 1936. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree (B.S.) in Commerce in 1941 from North Carolina Central University in Durham.

Judge Williams attended the University of Maryland School of Law, earning his Bachelor of Law Degree (L.L.B.) in 1952. Appointed Judge of the Orphans' Court for Baltimore City, Judge Williams remained on the Bench until his retirement in May, 1983. Judge Williams currently resides in Macon, North Carolina where he serves on the Board of Supervisors of Elections. He and his wife Anna have two children: Carol and Archie, Jr. and four grandchildren.

Bettye M.

IF YOU ASK ME

Smile orchids

Smile-of-the-week orchids to **Mrs. Vivian Ryan, the Morgan U. administrator.**

She was the gracious hostess for the monthly meeting of Morgan State University Women on Saturday. Speaker here was **Dr. Ann Venture Young,** who reviewed her latest book on South American black women poets.

And orchids to **Mrs. Beautine DeCosta Lee.** She introduced her fellow Philomathian Club members to the snazzy new black-owned 2110 Club when she hosted the monthly meeting on Saturday, where **Mayor Kurt Schmoke** was speaker.

The 2110 at that address on N. Charles St., is the new eatery owned by **Benjamin G. Gordon, Jr.,** and his medic dad.

And smiles, too, to 2110 bus boy, **Mark Sterling.** Those who were there are talking about his gracious manner.

More orchids

More smile orchids to **Mrs. Harry A. Cole (Doris).** Even though she's been ailing for over a month, she takes time to call and comfort sick and shut-in friends.

And to Miss Peggy Robinson, who spreads plenty of sunshine in her voice at Liberty Medical Center where she is an information clerk.

William E. Smith writes that **Mrs. Mamie E. Evans,** a member of his church, (which he failed to name), is one who inspires him with her "very engaging smile."

And **Mrs. Helena Grover** writes that she likes "your smile salute section, and I want you and your readers to know that my neighbor on Harlem Ave., **Mr. Herschel Harris** is a very inspiring person."

Editor's note: Please share with us names of persons whose smiles make your day. Write, Smiles, If you Ask Me, Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203, and please, smile, smile, smile.

Smile verse

If we but look, we'll always find
That even the darkest day
Holds a little ray of sunshine
To guide us on our way.
We can find it in a friendly smile,
Or in just a warm 'hello'—
We will find it, if we're looking
Almost every lace we go.
And once we've found the little
ways
To let the sun shine through,
We'll find it there to guide us
In everything we do. — Anon.

About people

When the Senior Americans of Maryland Inc., held its fifth annual pageant at the Sheraton Inner Harbor on Jan. 28 and 29, it was a first time the gala has been in Baltimore city and the first time for a black contestant.

She was **Mrs. Gussie Mercer Harris,** whom many know because of her long service to church and community. Those who were there are still talking about how she won the hearts of fellow contestants who named her Miss Congeniality.

Mrs. Harris is a 65-year member of Sharon Baptist Church, where she is active in the Ethel Quarles Circle. And, she works with the Liberty Medical Auxiliary, The Forest Park Seniors, who sponsored her in the contest, and the Dorchester Community Association and Flair Modeling Studio.

Cuff note: The Senior Ms. Pageant was open to persons over 60 to display their talents, give their philosophy and display evening attire.

Winner was **Cleo Kippenberg** of Cambridge, she will compete with contestants from 30 states at the finals in Atlantic City in April.

* * *

Members of Baltimore chapter of Chums journeyed to Waters Catering in Rockville, Md. on Sunday to join members of the D.C. chapter of founders' day luncheon and re-dedication.

Baltimore group was led by president, **Shirley Swafford,** with Baltimore members **Penjola Priest,** national president, and **Bernice McDaniels,** national secretary of the group.

D.C. president is **Mary Reed.**

Luncheon speaker was **Mrs. Phyllis Ethridge Young,** the D.C. Transportation exec who serves on the district's school board (And who recalled she got some of her elementary education at Baltimore's St. Frances Academy).

Morgan U. grads in the audience — **Nikki Johnson,** class of '73, a realtor, and her husband, **Lewis L. Johnson,** class of '70, who recalled he was an associate in Morgan's Development and University Relations office in from 1972-76. Today, he is an account exec with U.S. Sprint.

More people

People doing nice things: — When members of the Guest Club held their anniversary celebration at S and R Banquet Hall on Sunday evening, they paused to remember a deceased and loving member — **Freida Byron,** who died a week ago.

It was fitting that instead of a moment of silent prayer they had the orchestra dedicate a special dance number to Freida, whom friends and associates will always remember as one who loved and enjoyed life.

Members of this group are, **Delores Badden, Hazel Bailey, Myrtice Bennett, Jeanne Cummings, Otyce Froe, Bernice McDaniels, Christine Moore, Mary Pitts, Gwendolyn Stewart, Anethia Williams** and **Carolyn Willis.**

Not present were **Lilyan Slater,** whose hubby, Ed, is still ailing; **Louise Lockerman,** who has been ill, and **Phyllis Shamwell.**

More people doing thoughtful things: Members of Baltimore Frontiers Club selected **Arthur Snowden** as Frontiersman of the Year during recent meeting.

Fleming James, immediate past president and **Wilson Waters,** president, presented the coveted plaque to Mr. Snowden who is Second District Director of Frontiers International.

* * *

Members of Baltimore Tuskegee Alumni Club hold their annual Washington-Carver Scholarship Breakfast this Saturday (Feb. 13), at the Forum.

* * *

Death struck the ranks of the King's Landing Women's Service Club twice last week: Member **Mary Upsher,** a charter member of the group, died after a long illness. She was the Trinity AME Church member who was so thoughtful and who loved life — her church work, bowling, and was ever ready to help others locate the necessary greeting cards supply on a moment's notice.

Members, **Colles Corprew,** lost her daughter, **Kim.** She was the pretty 30-year-old who was an early camper and counselor at the YMCA's Camp Mohawk, later King's Landing. She died Feb. 1, in Norfolk, Va., where she worked as counselor for handicapped.

Funeral services were here in Baltimore at Heritage Church. Her dad, Kenneth Corprew of D.C., a brother, Renard, and maternal grandmother, Mrs. Zelma Glascoe, also survive.

Community Calendar

Kaleidascope to perform at CCC

Kaleidoscope in Dance, the jazz dance company under the direction of Paula Lynn, will perform in concert at the Fine & Performing Arts Center of Catonsville Community College Sunday, Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. The theme of the performance is "Jewels."

Guests artists will be Jim Clark and Maily Schuster, ballroom dancers from the Fred Astaire Studios specializing in Latin dances. Company dancers include nancy Brown, Kelly Boeckmann, Denise Davis, Jackie Greek, Angel Hartmann, Linda Hannigan, Rose Mullikin, Shannon Van Asdlen, Kelly Yesko, and Carla Zill.

Admission to the program, which is sponsored by the CCC Guest Artist Committee, is free. Call 455-4322.

Children Unlimited sponsors criminal law discussion

On Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the Parkville-Carney Library, Mr. Michael McCoughlin, a criminal law attorney, will be moderating a discussion on "Criminal Law and Non-Custodial Parents." The major topic to be discussed will be parental rights in disciplining children from the non-custodial parents point-of-view. Other criminal laws that may affect visitation, separation and divorce proceedings will also be discussed. Call Children Unlimited at 665-3955.

—More Partyline

(Continued from Page 8)

Cooper, Pamela Williams Morgan, Anne Davis, Virginia Dean, Bobbie Daniel, Joan Pratt, Theresa Moore, Linda White, Edith Whitmore, Antoinette Sekou and Geraldine Barbour.

Wesley Johnson, proprietor of the Five Mile House, was a gracious host. His dedication to the community was evidenced by his active participation in the planning of this event. He truly supported the recruiting efforts of the Cultured Pearls.

Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Central Maryland is a member of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America, a United Way affiliate. The organization is a national youth service federation comprised of over 400 affiliated member agencies.

The Cultured Pearls is an organization of professional women who are members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., a national service organization.

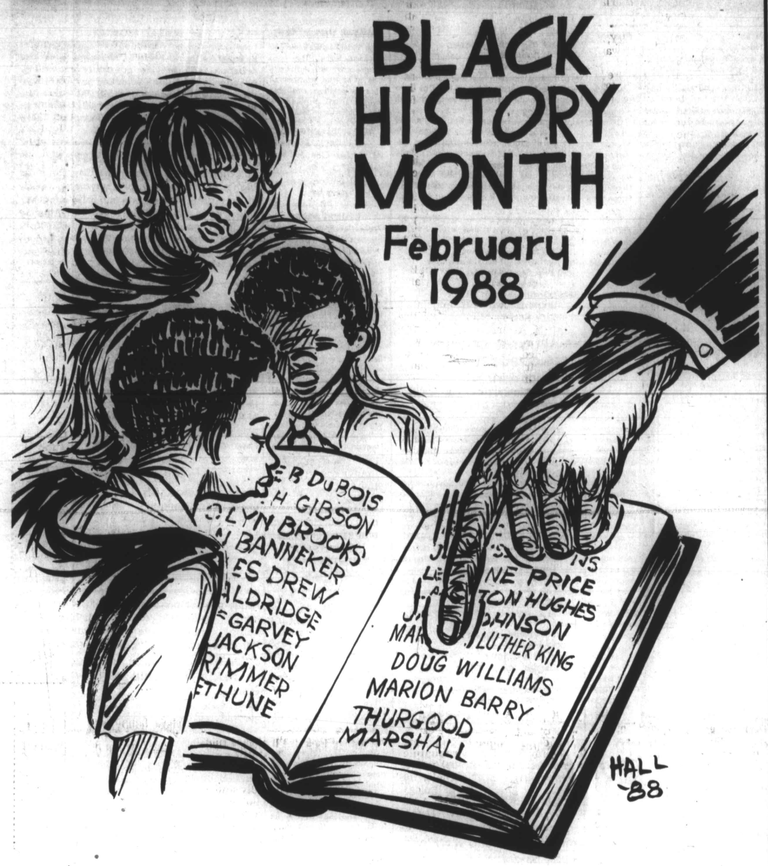
Scouting program set

The Roots of Scouting is sponsoring an awards presentation and Black History exhibits on Feb. 20, 1988, 6:30 p.m. Melvin H. Cade Armory, 2620 Winchester Street.

The Northwestern District Police Explorers will be giving a crime resistance presentation at the same time. for information call Sgt. Goldie S. Phillips, Jr., 396-2466.

Food, fun and games can be expected.

THE BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN



The song which instills pride

EDITOR'S NOTE: James Weldon Johnson and his brother Rosamond wrote Life Every Voice and Sing just before the celebration of Lincoln's Birthday in 1900.

In the October 18, 1933 edition of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper, Johnson tells the story of how he and his brother came to write the words and music which later became the National Anthem for our people, excerpted.

We reprint a portion of that article which was drawn from Johnson's own autobiography Along the Way.

By James Weldon Johnson

"Out of a life of impressive and varied achievements he comments: "Nothing that I have ever done has paid me back so fully in satisfaction as being the part creator of this song."

. . . A group of young men decided to hold on Feb. 12 a celebration of Lincoln's birthday. I talked over with my brother the thought I had in mind, and we planned to write a song to be sung as part of the excerises. We planned, better still, to have it sung by school children- a chorus of five hundred voices.

I got my first line: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING. Not a startling line; but I worked along grinding out the next five. When, near the end of the first stanza, there came to me the lines:

Sing a song full of the faith that
the dark past has taught us.
Sing a song full of the hope that
the present has brought us.

The spirit of the poem had taken hold of me. I finished the stanza and turned it over to Rosamond.

In composing the two other stanzas I did not use pen and paper. While my brother worked at his musical setting I paced back and forth on the front porch, repeating the lines over and prove to myself, going through all of the agony and ecstasy of creating. As I worked through the opening and middle lines of the last stanza:

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus
far on our way,
Thou who has by Thy might
Let us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we
pray;
Lest our feet stray from the
places, our God, where we met
Thee . . .
Lest, our hearts drunk with the
wine of the world, we forget
Thee. . .

I could not keep back the tears, and made no effort to do so. I was experiencing the transports of the poet's ecstasy. Feverish ecstasy was followed by the contentment—that sense of serene joy—which makes artistic creation the most complete of all human experiences.

When I had put the last stanza down on paper I at once recognized the Kiplingesque touch in the two longer lines quoted above, but I knew that in the stanza the American Negro was historically and spiritually, imminent; and I decided to let it stand as it was written.

As soon as Rosamond had finished his noble setting of the poem. he sent a copy of the manuscript to our publishers in New York requesting them to have a sufficient number of mimeographed copies made for the use of the chorus. The song was taught to the children and sung very effectively at the celebration; and my brother and I went on with the other work. After we had permanently moved away from Jacksonville, both the song and the occasions throughout the South and in some other parts of the country.

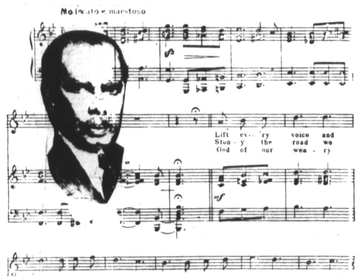
Within that time the publishers had recopyrighted it and issued it in several arrangements. Later it was adopted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and is now quite generally used throughout the country as the "Negro National Hymn."

The publishers consider it a valuable piece of property; however, in traveling around I have commonly found printed or typewritten copies of the words pasted in the backs of hymnals and the songbooks used in Sunday schools, Y.M.C.A.'s and similar institutions; and I think that is the method by which it gets its widest circulation.

Recently I spoke for the summer labor school at Bryn Mawr College and was surprised to hear it fervently sung by the white students there and to see it in their mimeographed folio of songs.

Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing

Words by JAMES WELDON JOHNSON — Music by J. ROSAMOND JOHNSON



THE FIRST TIME the song 'Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing' was by 500 children in 1900 in Florida. Today thousands of black children sing it today with pride.

What do we mean by Civil Rights?

EDITOR'S NOTE; Carter G. Woodson has always been honored as the founder and advocate of Black History Week, which he felt in 1926 was important in order to honor the accomplishments of black people. He was the first head and founder of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life which he called the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History when he founded it in 1915.

Woodson started the Negro History Bulletin in 1937, which was used to showcase the writings of blacks. The following is an article written by Woodson in the May 1949 edition of the Negro History Bulletin, discussing Civil Rights four generations later. Much of what he said still applies today.

By Carter G. Woodson

We hear so much about civil rights that the public is confused as to the meaning of the term and what is being done about it.

The newspapers are carrying articles and editorials on the topic. Persons are publishing in the same columns letters expressing their opinions thereupon. Organizations launched for other purposes are taking up the agitation, and others eager to exploit the gullible public by posing as agencies advancing human rights are rapidly springing into action.

So many of the questionable agencies have entered the field that it is doubtful that the unselfish and sincere advocates of universal freedom can advance under these handicaps.

The situation is further complicated by Negro-baiting and trading demagogues who have made the question a political football.

Only the President and a few liberals have demonstrated that they desire to see every one exercise the rights guranteed in the Constitution of the United States.

What do we mean by civil rights? THe ancient Greeks and Romans distinguished between economic and civil rights. Only citizens could exercise the rights of voting and holding office, but others under specified conditions might trade and acquire property.

Life and property of such restricted classes, however, might be at the mercy of the ruling class, if the owner did not have civil rights by the exercise of which he could protect his interests. Many of these ancients lost their property, became a debtor class subject to imprisonment and slavery for not being able to choose the officials who by excessive taxes could confiscate property.

Such has been the experience of thousands of Negroes in the South who were saved from reenslavement only by the nullification of the peonage laws by judicial fiat.

In our time civil rights have been dependent upon economic rights. Hindered by race hate and trades union proscription, Negroes have been unable to secure employment on the level of whites whose high wages set the high standard of living beyond the means of Negroes kept down in drudgery and poverty.

The right to vote and hold office without the means to wield the influence necessary to equalization of opportunity to earn a living has not meant much to the poverty-stricken Negroes thus privileged.

Only recently has the matter of employment and social security become one of concern to the voters in general, and a majority of them have not yet become broad enough to understand that all elements must have opportunity to make the most of themselves, if this nation hopes to endure.

The history of civil rights with respect to the Negro in the United States makes an interesting story. until about 1800, race was not an important factor. Caste rather than race prejudice was the custom.

The proposal of President Truman to advance the Negro toward civil rights is not so far reaching. He has in mind legislation assuring equal justice to all in our courts, the outlawing of lynching, the prohibition of the poll tax as a requirement for voting in national elections, and the penalizing of discrimination in employment on account of race, creed or national origin.

He has hinted at the abrogation of laws separating the races in travel, in educational institutions and in hotels, restaurants and places of amusement; but the present changes demanded ot Congress are not so far sweeping.

The politicans representing the old land of bondage in Congress, however, oppose all federal legislation of any description as a special favor or benefit to their former bondmen.

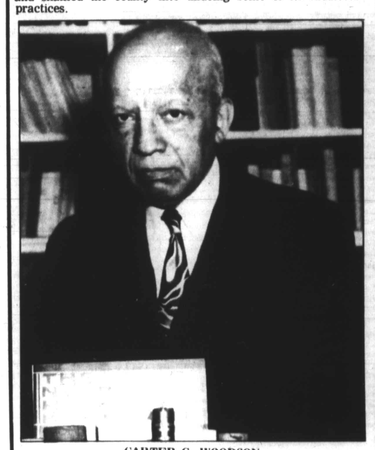
The policy of these obstructionists is to keep the United States government out of anything which has to do with Negroes and thus leave them at the mercy of the states which still hold them in actual slavery although they are nominally free.

In this these states were encouraged by the spineless and biased post Civil War United States Supreme Court which declared valid the laws by which these commonwealths deprived the Negro of all civil rights. The United States citizenship of the Negro was thereby nullified.

While white persons in this country are citizens of the United States and of the states in which they reside, Negroes are not citizens of either.

Null and void is the provision in the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution specifying: "No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

In fact in the land of their undoing Negroes have been deprived of everything which a decent and progressive person many aspire to. So far as the Negroes are concerned therefore the Constitution of the United States served only as a wortniess scrap of paper until critics from foreign shores questioned the claim of such a racial despotism as qualified to lead the world toward democracy and shamed the county into undoing some of its medieval practices.



CARTER G. WOODSON