THE AFRO-AMERICAN
FOUNDED IN 1892
By John H. Murphy Sr., 1840-1922
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OUR CREED

We believe that America can lead the world every from moral and national standpoint when it secures to all men, regardless of race, color or creed, his honest and equal rights. Having no race, fearing no man, the Colored Press stands for every man in the free lands that all are kept so long as anyone is held back.

"We are Americans, endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights, among these are life, liberty and equal rights. Having no race, fearing no man, the Colored Press stands for every man in the free lands that all are kept so long as anyone is held back."
—Frederick Douglass

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The right is more precious than peace.
—WOODROW WILSON

More Recreation Facilities Needed

The unfortunate accident in which young Alfred Diggs was burned by 11,000 volts of a high tension wire Sunday, while not the direct fault on any one person, should point up the fact that the many children out of school now need constant supervision to avoid any other such occurrence.

This supervision is the responsibility of both the city and the parents.

To the parent falls the responsibility of knowing where his or her child is at all times. Admittedly many are away from home during the day. This is especially true of colored parents.

Still, youngsters should not be permitted to roam around the streets aimlessly simply because they are free from school during the summer months.

And it is there the city's responsibility begins. There are not nearly enough recreational facilities in Baltimore where the thousands of children here can play free from danger and under close supervision.

More play areas are needed, more camping facilities are needed. The Board of Estimates has just approved a proposal to create twelve new playgrounds on vacant, city-owned lots at a cost of $20,000. Even so, more are needed. Many kids fail to use the playgrounds in their areas, because they are too far away.

One organization which attempted to get help from the city in providing additional recreational facilities was turned down. This was the Church and Fraternal Council.

This private organization, however, is going on and tonight (Friday) sponsors its first community program for the young folks. Before the summer is over the Council's leaders hope to have recreational programs set up in various local churches and lodges.

The Council is prepared to aid the churches in providing the equipment needed for such a program. It is hoped that all the churches will co-operate.

Our children of today are our leaders of tomorrow. No money spent to safeguard their lives is money wasted.

Hotel Jim Crow Double Insult

As Baltimoreans, we cannot help but share and deplore the shame which was brought upon the name of the city last week when the Catholic War Veterans were forced to vote never to hold a convention here again.

Cause of the action was the humiliating treatment visited upon four delegates to the session by the Lord Baltimore Hotel.

After accepting the convention in order to grab off the money, the hostlery proceeded to insult the colored delegates by refusing them room accommodations and eating facilities.

This was doubly vicious because, first, the action violated Christianity as represented by the religious nature of the organization. And second it was unpatriotic because the membership had all made sacrifices to perserve the nation.

If ever an establishment delivered a double insult at both God and country, this was it.

It owes an apology not only to the individuals whom it victimized but to the organization and the citizens of Baltimore as well.

When any hotel accepts a convention and then excludes part of its membership, it is guilty of obtaining money under false pretensions. Some day some of our groups are going to make a test of this principle by suing for actual and punitive damage. Then and not until then will our hotels decide it is needless and degrading abuse.

Censor Board Stands Pat

We heartily endorse the action taken by the Board of Motion Picture Censors which has determined to carry on as usual in spite of a ruling by Attorney General Hall Hammond, stripping away most of its prerogatives.

Mr. Hammond, for some unfathomable reason is temporarily anxious to clear the road so that the repugnant film "The Birth of A Nation" might be shown here without interference from the censors.

On the basis of two recent Supreme Court decisions in N.Y. and Texas he has prematurely issued his ruling which has no other effect but to accommodate the exploiters of this objectionable film.

"The Birth of A Nation" glorifies the cause of the South during the reconstruction, immortalizes the Ku Klux Klan and stigmatizes the colored race as cowards and rapists.

Why this offensive and obviously subversive film is still being peddled after more than 25 years is a mystery after thousands of films of much later vintage and far greater artistic and intrinsic value have long since been destroyed or shelved.

We would like to ask Mr. Hammond if he would be so zealous in upholding the freedom of the movies in the case of films glorifying the Fascists, Nazi, Communists and other enemies who took up arms against us.

Why then be so solicitous about the rights to exploit this equally odious film. We hope the Censor Board sticks to its guns and refuses to become a party to this evil.

New Methodist Bishop Welcome

Because both the outgoing and the newly elected bishops of the Methodist Church, A. P. Shaw and E. A. Love are well known to Baltimore, we wish the one God-speed and the other a hearty welcome.

During his tenure here, Bishop Shaw, who was assigned to the Baltimore Area in 1940 has made an out standing contribution to the civic, fraternal and religious life of the city and state.

Although born in Mississippi and devoting much of his early ministry to the southland, Bishop Shaw can almost be looked upon as a native because he served his first ministerial charge at Westminster, Md., in 1909.

Bishop Love was not only one of the energetic members of the Washington Annual Conference, of which Baltimore is a component, but is also the son of a former Methodist minister, who served honorably in this area until his death.

Bishop Love also served as a member of the faculty of Morgan College where he was an instructor of religious subjects when that institution was more of a denominational than a state school.

The AFRO believes that in his election, the Methodists have made a wise choice and with his coming the dignified and compassionate service of Bishop Shaw will continue unbroken.

Congratulations To Rev. Payne

Our congratulations go out both to the Republican Party and to Baltimore's Rev. A. J. Payne for the selection of this prominent pastor as chaplain for the GOP national convention.

This is the second time the Rev. Mr. Payne has been honored by his party. In 1948, the local pastor seconded the nomination of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey as the Republican candidate for president.

Rev. Payne, pastor of the Enon Baptist Church, is confident he will deliver the invocation on the third day of this year's convention.

His friends, parishioners and fellow Republicans should feel proud of his part in what may well become one of the most important political conventions ever held. We are certain he is a suitable representative.

Youth Points The Way

With the formal "opening" this week of his State's latest, and crow venture at Sandy Point Park, Governor Lane will note the example set recently by a group of youngsters from the Madison Ave. YWCA.

The cool group, Club Malakoia, went on an outing to Patapsco State Park, and was shocked when confronted with a display marked "Colored" with blatant red letters, posted over a picnic area.

Without the slightest qualm, the group ignored the sign, and picnicked in the Glen Artney Grove area reserved for whites.

The incident brought home once again the fact that there is no state law which enables authorities to establish segregation in state property.

But it put forward officials of Maryland parks in the fallacious belief that they do have this authority, and can find (if they can) redress in the courts.

Meanwhile, the bad medicine in Governor signs at Patapsco Park, a new jim-crow beach at Point Lookout, and still another jim-crow beach at Fort Smallwood Park, is that prescribed by the Club Malakoia — insofar there is no one who will contribute to the 207 Club, Elizabeth M. Shipley, $5; $1 from Miss Margaret Williams; pledges to give from Dr. Maurice Doles, Miss A. Dukye Woode, to bring the total pledges and cash to $73.

This club, a temporary organization has been formed by this column to raise $207 needed to paint the Madison Ave. YWCA Dining Room. Working to aid the cause are some members of the We Wives Club — Iris Mapp, Vernice Reynolds, Priscilla Lansey, Mae Dyson and Ivy Grinage, who is treasurer of the group.

Contributions can be mailed to this column or to Mrs. Grinage at 1818 Pennsylvania Ave.

ALCOHOLIC DEFINED

The Rev. Howard Cornish, program chairman of the Frontiers Club, is receiving plaudits from members because of his fine selection of weekly speakers.

Last week's speaker, the Rev. Frederick W. Smith, executive secretary, Md. Temperance League, ballyhooed the idea that an alcoholic is a person who is always drunk.

An alcoholic, he said, can be anyone who has to have a drink every day. And, whisky drinkers are not the only alcoholics. There are plenty of wine, beer victims. By the by, he said an ounce of beer has as much alcohol as rye or bourbon.

PHILADELPHIA STORY

Always thought Philadelphia, the so-called city of brotherly love, had the jump on Baltimore, Washington and other Southern cities. In the night club field, however, this isn't so.

Patrons of Philly's Pep's Musical Bar and Showboat stand and sit around with their hats on. In most Baltimore entertainment spots, men do remove their hats.

DRUMMER BOYS

POLITICS

From The Democratic Viewpoint

By LLOYAL RANDOLPH

Last week I recommended to the colored voters Oscar Ewing, the head of the Federal Social Security Administration, as our candidate for President. He is the man who has placed human value above everything else. Recently, it was announced through the press that Congress had approved a bill whereby those on the old age insurance rolls would get an increase of $5 or 12½ per cent, whichever is the larger. The bill also increased the maximum benefit payable to a family from the present $150 to $168.75 monthly.

This bill was sponsored by Oscar Ewing, who realized that the amount of money now received by the ex-wage earners is not proportionate to the increased cost of living.

During the time that the Social Security Bureau has been under the direction of Oscar Ewing, many changes have been made so as to benefit either the wage earner or his family.

Record Favorable

Therefore, a man who has the responsibility of the welfare of many millions of people and who by his past record clearly shows that he has acted to protect their interests deserves the support of all the people to promote him to the highest job and honor that a citizen in this country can aspire to, the Presidency of the United States.

Since last week, we find others are beginning to see the short comings in the announced candidates. Kefauver, Russell, Harriman and Barkley and are turning toward Oscar Ewing as the Democratic Party's candidate.

Max Zaritsky, president emeritus and for 40 years president of the A. F. of L. United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers, stated that he has urged other national leaders to come out for Oscar Ewing and that Ewing has his full support.

Supported By Leaders

There are many leaders who have told me that they will support the candidacy of Oscar Ewing, but have to wait until Ewing announces that he will be a candidate.

I know from reliable sources that if Ewing finds that there is enough public support he will come out and campaign, and with the backing of President Truman, he can get the Democratic nomination.

We as voters should write to Oscar Ewing urging him to run for the Presidency. We will have a friend in the White House if he is elected.

Speak Your Piece

Insult After Insult

Dear AFRO:

The stupidity and unfairness of segregation and discrimination certainly was brought home, this week, when only the white theatres showed the Ray Robinson-Joe Maxim fight film.

Because of this, colored fans were deprived of this pleasure. Yet, if the situation were reversed, I'd be willing to bet that our theatres would be flooded with white fans who would come to see the fight.

It would seem that on one occasion at least, the operators of downtown theatre houses would have thrown open their doors indiscriminately so as to render a public service.

But such a thing would be asking too much of Baltimore, I'm afraid.

Fight Film Problem

Dear AFRO:

It appears as if the State and the City of Baltimore are competing in a contest to see which can insult us the worse.

First the city builds a jim-crow beach. Not to be outdone, the State builds a segregated bathing beach.

Sometimes I wonder what the officials of Baltimore and Maryland think we are! Sometimes I wonder if they believe we are idiots, willing to pay the same taxes as everybody else, but willing to accept any old dirty treatment that's dished out!

One of these days, we'll wake up and realize that the power of our united vote can rid us once and for all of officials who do nothing but insult us.

But when that day will come is the biggest problem of all!

JEROME MATTHEWS

Althea Gibson In Haiti

PORT - AU - PRINCE, Haiti (ANP)—Althea Gibson, champion of the American Tennis Association, will give several exhibition matches in here, the latter part of June.

If You Ask Me

By B. M. PHILLIPS

Randolph

Add to this week's contributors to the 207 Club, Elizabeth M. Shipley, $5; $1 from Miss Margaret Williams; pledges to give from Dr. Maurice Doles, Miss A. Dukye Woode, to bring the total pledges and cash to $73.

This club, a temporary organization has been formed by this column to raise $207 needed to paint the Madison Ave. YWCA Dining Room. Working to aid the cause are some members of the We Wives Club — Iris Mapp, Vernice Reynolds, Priscilla Lansey, Mae Dyson and Ivy Grinage, who is treasurer of the group.

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Pleased By Coverage

Dear AFRO:

Just a line of appreciation for the articles concerning the Catholic War Veterans Convention in the June 21 edition.

I was very pleased by the news story concerning my ejection from the Lord Baltimore Hotel, and also by the feature story and picture that you carried on the convention.

I would like to extend my personal thanks to the reporter who interviewed me. Thank you for your fine co-operation and consideration in this affair.

(Mrs.) Louise L. Vogelsang
Bronx, N.Y.

REPORTERS' REPORT TO THE PEOPLE

Noteworthy

By HERBERT MANGRUM

The convenient lack of memory on the part of many persons appearing before a prominent magistrate, never fails to amuse me as well as the court itself.

Many of the so-called excuses fall into the dense category, but, who would believe them?

While listening to court proceedings recently, I learned that by Magistrate E. Everett Lane, it is hard what I believe to be one of the weakest excuses yet offered.

Purely Accidental

A young chap charged with hitting his wife with a chair, was only able to come up with the statement, "she ran into it."

One of the old standbys that is running neck and neck with the preceding one in the excuse race, I don't remember, I was drunk at the time."

Now the thing that is beyond me, is that many times such persons are sentenced to the same judge for the second, third, and sometimes fourth time. What is there to gain?

Crying, Cue Routine

When caught in their acts they have never enough to plead for a break. Last Monday one even went into a Johnnie Ray routine tears, gestures and all.

In all appearing before the operation of a court of law is rather a formal affair. It's just a bit unusual to discover that a little comedy peeks through now and then.

Mainstream

By RALPH MATTHEWS JR.

No one will lose any sleep over all this but I think that:

Going to Druid Hill Park on Sunday to escape the tortures of city life is like jumping into an incinerator to cool off.

Fat women in play shorts resemble the southerly view of a Greyhound Bus.

The best television shows come on after midnight. The best disc jockeys are the ones that talk the least. Whoever said movies are getting better than ever should have his glasses adjusted.

It is too hot to get married in June.

Women who want to marry men with money seldom have anything to offer in exchange.

Getting all dressed up in 100 degree weather is lost motion . . . as is fanning yourself to keep cool . . . and complaining about how hot it is.

People who say "I'm broad-minded," seldom are . . . as are people who call themselves "liberal," "sympathetic" etc.

So called "sexy" novels are a waste of paper and a reflection on both author and his readers.

There is no under-estimating American taste.

and then.

If you don't think so, visit the courts sometimes. You are permitted to do so. There you will find drama and comedy all rolled into one.

Lonesomania

By BUDDY LONESOME

In the June 7 issue of the AFRO, I sadly noted a story on page 5, concerning sentencing of Evinger Tribble, sales tax investigator, to six months imprisonment on charges of accepting a $100 bribe.

Before passing sentence, the Honorable Judge Herman Moser commented: "There must be absolute and unquestioned confidence in all branches of government."

On page 3 of the same AFRO, is a story concerning a People's Court constable who was charged with unfairly obtaining money from prospective tenants of homes in the Cherry Hill area.

After a hearing before a tribunal consisting of Chief Judge Allan W. Rhynhart and his associate judges, the constable was adjudged guilty of taking the money from the tenants. His sentence—30 days' suspension from duty without pay.

The man, a sworn officer of the law, is back on duty with full status, whereas HAS THAT JUDGE MOSER SAID ???

Police Department

Patrolman Benjamin Lodge, Southwestern district, was stabbed in the wrist, recently, while putting a bashy prisoner in a patrol wagon. Although wounded, Patrolman Lodge disarmed his man without resorting to undue violence.

The same week, a soldier was shot by a Northwestern district policeman who saw him jump out the window of an empty house. QUESTION: WHO IS THE BETTER POLICEMAN???

Fancy Free

By LOUIE ROBINSON

Street Scenes: On the corner of Lanvale and Calhoun Sts., a small boy was teaching his canine companion how to carry a package of meat home from the grocery. Cost of one meat carrying lesson: one package of meat.

On Mosher St. near Carey St., another youngster was singing "I'm Yours" a la Mario Lanza on the top of his lungs.

This week Fancy Free received a post card from a male reader commenting on last week's comment on the lusciously-decorated interior of the Division St. office of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company. The card bore a one-word comment—"Amen."

Southern Politics

All of the political shenanigans make for an interesting voting method that Thurgood Marshall revealed on a recent trip here.

It seems that a bloc of colored voters in one of the Southernmost states, faced each year with choosing the lesser of two evil political candidates, hit upon a fair solution. They vote against whomever is in office. Since they happen to swing the balance of office, it means that whoever is in office gets voted out.

That way the colored voters are sure of a fast turnover of officeholders, thus providing the element hope that one of these years they'll get a decent one.

Byline

By JESSE H. WALKER

Two youthful colored defendants looked on with quiet detachment Tuesday afternoon in Judge Tuck's court when a 16-year-old white youth reacted to a 7-year sentence by slashing his wrists with a razor blade.

The two youths, one 18 years, the other 20 years, were the calmest in the courtroom as the white youth's convicted companion was joined him in yelling that he, too, was innocent, assorted relatives set up a wail in the rear of the court and court attaches had their hands full controlling their suddenly beserk prisoners.

Whatever went on in the minds of these two colored youths weren't shown on their faces although they were awaiting trial themselves, one for burglary and the other for breaking into a road stand.

As it turned out, they were more fortunate than the white youth who had been found guilty of assault and robbery.

Judge Tucker placed the 16-year-old on probation after the boy admitted he and a 14-year-old pal broke in a B and O railroad car parked in the Austin St. yards. Since the car was full of piles of rubber and the kids didn't take anything, the judge was lenient.

The 20-year-old, although found guilty and sentenced to 18 months, still got off much easier than the two convicted white youths who broke up the court's decorum.

He took it stoically, too. No razor blades on him.

Prayers For Peace Renewed | Cigarettes And Change

Only Heard

By RUTH JENKINS

Caught a nightclub operator busily engaged the other night, not operating the nightclub, but patiently slitting the cellophane wrapper of cigarette packages and inserting three cents change.

These are the packages which go on sale in his cigarette vending machine.

I had thought that this tedious job was handled by the cigarette companies. It isn't because the cost of cigarettes varies in diverse taxes.

So I asked the man wouldn't it be less trouble for him to sell his cigarettes across the counter instead of through the machine.

It would be less trouble, but also less business, he explained, pointing out that the number of free packs which he would have to give away to friendly policemen, salesmen, bosom friends and acquaintances, etc. would hit him in the pocketbook.

From a statistical point of view, the tavern sells an average of 600 packs of cigarettes per week at a profit of four cents per pack. That's $24.

There are some vending machine companies which insert the change in the cigarette packages, but for this service, they would allow the tavern a profit of only two cents per pack. That's only $12.

So when last seen, the nightclub operator was patiently slitting the cellophane wrapper of cigarette packages and inserting three cent change.

Schoolboy wisdom on an examination paper: A passive verb is that in which the subject is the sufferer, such-as, "He was married to her."

'Twas May 30, 1941 that glowing accounts were written about the cheery atmosphere and comfortable appointments of the newly accredited AME Home for the Aged at 112 Aisquith St.

Five years later, church communicants were complaining about filthy bedroom floors, dirty bedlinen and inadequate heating facilities which had characterized the institution as it had been operated previously in the 200 block Aisquith St.

Since that time, the AME Church has made great progress in caring for the aged and indigent to elaborate quarters at Kittrell College.

So the old Baltimore building made news again this week, being described in Housing Court as a dilapidated structure with a leaky roof which reduces the tone tenant to catching the rain in buckets.

Which matters not too much now because the house will be torn down soon to make way for the Baltimore Redevelopment Plan.

En Transient: Luncheon guests at the big station cafeteria got a Theatre laugh when a conductor, attentive to a loud mouthed, friendly dump white woman with a southern accent who was unfamiliar with the self-service system, [illegible] herself several times by asking ridiculous questions of the room at large.

She had chosen a table next to ours, and though we tried to ignore her various breaches of etiquette, she would not be ignored.

After a few minutes she hissed at my back, trying to attract my attention. I pretended I didn't hear her.

Then she whispered "Hey." No answer from me. She tried again, "Hey Sir." Still no answer. But she insisted, "Colored lady." Thought I had better answer then, not knowing what might be coming out next.

All she wanted to know was whether she would haveto go to the counter for her dessert or whether the waitress would serve her at the table.

"Let Us Pray Each Day for Peace" is an idea introduced several months ago by the AFRO, with the suggestion that everybody everywhere say a short prayer each each day.

The idea was that a concentrated unified prayer might do a world of good and untold good for the world.

The same union prayer theme is being promoted by Charles E. Mangum, a white gas and electric company employee who lives at 2902 Clearview Ave.

Advocating that the general public pray for peace "once per day to a prayer for world peace and also for individual peace of mind, Mr. Mangum says "There is no telling what might happen if everyone would pray from many heartsat one time."

A Catholic himself, Mr. Mangum has obtained encouragement and prayer suggestions from Father John Dougal, Rabbi Abraham Shusterman and Bishop Noble C. Powell.

Copies of these prayers may be had from him for the asking.

The November elections will mark the 25th presidential contest between the Democrats and the Republican parties. The Republicans have won 14; the Democrats, 10.

Having driven a Yellow Cab for a full year without accident, Early Jackson, 27, of 920 Bentalou St. was awarded a safe driving pin last week.

He is the son of Mrs. Leona Phillips, the husband of Mrs. Elmer Jackson and the father of four youngsters.

SOB-SISTER: — At a luncheon party an actress, noted for her sarcasm, looked significantly at Rosalind Russell and said, "I dread to think of life at 45."

The quick-witted Rosalind replied innocently "Why? What happened then?"

Several several answers this week with that same type of barb to the comment of "I just can't get used to this heat."

Scratch Pad

By MAE MORRIS MEDDERS

A working gall don't know what's she missing until an illness keeps her home, and she gets acquainted with daytime television.

She hasn't lived until she's sighed through an old silent film starring Rudolph Valentino, laughed through the antics of Lew Parker, sniffed through the romantic 15 minutes of "Bride and Groom," and sobbed out loud when somebody she really needs it "Strikes It Rich."

And do you know that that guy Valentine who sends in the press notices!

At least three times a week, one of his films is shown, and the leading ladies with the short haircuts and the be - shadowed eyes swoon in his arms (with good reason).

Only trouble, though, the same films are shown over and over. Within two weeks, I memorized the dialogue (written, that is) to "Son Of The Sheik."

Round about noon-time, the "real — life" serials come on.

(Darn it! Guess I'll have to get sick again to find out if Vanessa finds Dan Duncan away from the evil influence of Ed Deacon, the crooked politician!)

Then come the cooking lessons; the afternoon movie (Ann Harding wore a mean hat in 1935); the variety shows, and at long last, the Western "picture."

And Saturdays! Oh happy day! Roy Rogers, Hopalong Cassidy and Wild Bill Hickock—one right behind the other!

Can't imagine what folks did to wile away the lonely hours of illness before television.

There ought to be one of the things in every hospital ward and Army Camp.

"Cause when it comes to keeping your mind off your own aches and pains — have you seen Valentino in "The Eagle."?

Ain't It The Truth

By VIRGINIA MANNING

Let's drift, this week, to the perfect host (there is no such animal) and see what the invited guest who plans to spend "a quite restful week end in the country has to say.

Hosts are divided into several categories, such as:

The over-solicitous type who tries to make you so comfortable that you end up so miserable, you wish they would go away and leave you alone.

The kind who always wants to work; he tears down the family car the day before you arrive; he knows very well you'll put it back together, since you are a mechanic;

Next we have the outdoor guy who just adores nature. He not only will insists upon your eating your meals outdoors with the flies, mosquitoes and bugs, but will ask you to help him pick the vegetables for dinner from his garden when he knows you are scared to death of bees;

Then we find the host who has planned to housetrain all summer but never gets around to it. This one meets you with a dust rag, mop and a paint brush. What can you do but help? You surely don't see the poor guy drop dead.

We also have the host who will insist upon going hiking the morning after the night before, when all you want is a little sleep. He also likes fishing and tennis.

Always in the morning you feel your worst. What's he care about you?

The worst one of all is the one that takes you marketing, so you can see the town, and he leaves his pocketbook at home. You guessed it. You buy the dinner.

There is the "never get out" host (because of the children), who will ask you to mind them for a couple of hours and spends the day. This type knows that you will get dinner and have the children clean and dressed when he returns, so what's his rush?

Oh, but if we could find the kind you dream about, who will give you the keys to the cottage, stock it up with food, pack up his family, and spend the week end in town. What a restful week end that would be.

But that's only a dream. Ain't it the truth?

Class Reunion For Dunbar Grads Of 1942

LOCAL STEEL STRIKE PICTURE IN 4th WEEK:

Workers Calm, Confident, Of Steel Strike Victory

What's the local steel strike picture after four weeks?

Well, in the Dundalk and Sparrows Point areas where most of the 8,000 colored workers at the nearby Bethlehem Steel plant live, there is a calm, confident attitude.

In a way, the workers and their families are hiding their time until an agreement is reached.

They received their last paychecks this week.

Big Election Turn-Out

It was election day for CIO Local 2609 when the AFRO journeyed out to the United Steelworkers Headquarters at 300 Dundalk Ave. on Wednesday.

This local has about ten thousand members. Forty per cent are colored. In the other local union, No. 2610, 60 per cent are colored workers.

Judging from the big election turnout, the union has a solid front in its battle against the steel companies.

By noon, a record number of the voters milling around the grounds had cast their ballots for the election of officers for a two-year term.

First Colored Candidates

Candidates for office included G. Finley Webb Sr., William McCallum, and John House, the first colored candidates for high offices in the local union. None, however was elected.

Mr. Webb was a candidate for recording secretary. At present, he is shop steward in the wire mill, secretary of the credit union, and a member of the Blue Cross and pensions committee.

Workers Not Desperate

"As for the strike picture, I can say that the workers are not desperate," Mr. Webb pointed out.

"Some of them have found light jobs. Those with union jobs are just sitting the strike out.

"Most workers are just seeking a means to tide them over until a settlement is reached."

The Strike Picture

The AFRO talked with several other officials of the local union and found the following:

1. Local Unions 2609 and 2610 have a good-sized relief fund and are using these resources for servicing the needs of the people.

2. The Taft-Hartley Law is still regarded as abominable.

An attempt to get the workers back under this law would almost be useless.

3. Relations with the management of the Bethlehem Steel Company's Sparrows Point plant are good. So its workers regard the strike as action against the big companies in general.

Aid From Union

Some of the workers' wives journeyed to union headquarters with their voting husbands. They were signing up for aid.

They do not look on this aid as relief, of getting something for nothing, since a great part of the fund came from the workers' pockets.

This was the money they set aside for such a "rainy day."

At present, aid is restricted to food and other necessities. Union committees have also contacted other businesses to which the landlords, the merchants and workers have financial obligations.

How effective the plan will be, will not be known until the bills are due.

Besides the donations from the workers, various businesses and other institutions in the community have contributed to the fund.

Taft-Hartley Hated

It seems that the only thing that could excite the workers are two hated names—Taft-Hartley.

Since there is a possibility that the President may be forced to use the law by Congress, the AFRO asked the men about working under the Taft-Hartley Law.

Bitter Replies

The replies were bitter and intense. They were fighting words from persons who believed that the use of the bill would be a great underhand blow to labor.

"Well we have to force Taft-Hartley Laws on us and we still would not work," one worker said.

"Anyone who votes for a Taft or any Republican candidate should have his head examined," was another reply.

Wage Agreement, Rotten

"This handling of the steel agreement is a rotten set-up. The big companies, the Republicans, and Taft have really loused things up.

"The whole idea is that they are trying to curb the powers of organized labor. In doing so, they hope to get the public sentiment against labor."

At present, maintenance men are permitted to work at the Sparrows Point plant. This will keep the machinery in good working condition.

Basis Of Steel Dispute

The steel wage-price dispute has been building since last January 1. During this period there have been intermittent collective bargaining and frequent strike calls and postponements.

The period has also featured the repeated intervention by the Government, first as mediator, then as would-be referee, and then as self-declared operator.

On April 9, President Truman seized the entire steel industry on the eve of a proposed nationwide strike. A Supreme Court decision on June 2 stated that Truman violated the Constitution. The present steel strike started immediately.

About 650,000 basic steelworkers are idled throughout the nation. Each day of the strike creates additional unemployment in plants which depend on steel.

In the local area, about 8,000 of the 25,000 workers at the huge Sparrows Point works are colored.

Seventeen steel seizure bills have been introduced in Congress. Passage of them seems remote since Congress will adjourn soon.

Congress has already requested the President to use Taft-Hartley. Law but Truman is definitely against this.

Cop Whitewashed In Brutality Case

Interracial Commission Fails To Take Up Other Charges

The Maryland Commission on Interracial Problems and Relations has cleared a Northwestern District policeman of brutality charges brought by the Baltimore NAACP, and further advised that similar charges in the future should be filed by defendants before the commission.

The Rev. Ward D. Yerby, commission executive secretary, in a letter to Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, NAACP president, said that the commission, along with two members of the Criminal Justice Commission had found Officer Carl D. McKinney not guilty of assaulting Pvt. Clarence Fowler earlier this year.

The charge against Officer McKinney grew out of his arrest of Private Fowler in a Northwest Baltimore restaurant. The NAACP charged that the soldier was beaten without provocation by the officer.

Brutality Not Mentioned

The Rev. Mr. Yerby declared that at a hearing at Northwestern Police Court "there was no mention of police brutality by the defendant and the defendant was charged with assault and disorderly conduct."

Said the Rev. Mr. Yerby: "The defendant pleaded guilty to both charges and upon evidence was sentenced to four months by Magistrate E. Everett Lane."

The letter related that the case was appealed by the soldier's attorney, W. A. C. Hughes, who entered a plea of not guilty on both charges "because of a technicali that the disorderly conduct incident was not in a public place as the committment papers read."

Unfavorable Army Record

The Rev. Mr. Yerby further declared that:

"It was brought out in the discussion that (Private Flowler) had a clean civilian record but a very unfavorable Army record."

The letter said that Officer McKinney, when questioned about the arest, had said that the soldier "was very unruly during the arrest," and that Judge Herman Moser later remarked, "The officer did what I would have done under similar circumstances."

The Rev. Mr. Yerby's letter also said:

"It was decided further it would be best for the defendants to file their complaints with the commission in regard to such cases."

Several Other Cases

The case was one of several put before Col. Beverly Ober, police commissioner and referred to the interracial and justice commissions.

The Rev. M. Yerby said that particular base was chosen for study because all of the parties involved were colored.

He did not mention disposition of the other cases.

Airman Addison Mans Gun In Korean War

Airman Second Class Boston T. Addison of Baltimore, is on duty in Korea as a gunner with the Fifth Air Force's 17th Bomb Wing.

A Night Intruder outift, the 17th Bomb group has the mission of destroying Communist supply lines in North Korea. Airman Addison is the son of John Addison of 22 Main St. in Baltimore.

Teen-Agers Held, Burglary Suspects

Southwestern district police are holding six young teen-agers for investigation after finding two of them inside a building loan office, Monday night.

Patrolman John McKew was making a routine check of the Allie Building Assn., 200 block N. Warwick Ave., when he noticed a door ajar.

A 19-year-old boy and his 14-year-old companion were nabbed by the patrolman. The other two boys, who on the scene, fled.

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