THE AFRO-AMERICAN

FOUNDED IN 1892
By John H. Murphy Sr. — 1846-1922
Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO-AMERICAN Publishing Co., Inc.

OUR CREED

We believe that America can best lead the world from racial and national antagonisms when it accords to every man, regardless of race, color or creed, his human and equal rights. Hating no man, fearing no man, the Colored Press strives to help every man in the firm belief that all are hurt so long as anyone is held back.

"We are Americans and, as Americans, we speak to America."
—Frederick Douglass

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The secret of success in life is for a man to be ready for his opportunity when it comes.
DISRAELI

What The AFRO Stands For

A seat for every child in a modern school building that is not overcrowded.
A teacher for every 35 pupils.
The right of every child to attend the school closest to his home, if there is room.
The right of every child to secure instruction in any course which is offered in the curriculum of Baltimore public schools.

'Second Emancipation'

Dr. Mordecai Johnson really poured it on during his speech Sunday at the 91st celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation.

And all the politicians whom Grand Master Willard Allen (of the Prince Hall Masons) had assembled there had to sit and listen, possibly uncomfortably.

But Dr. Johnson's audience listened and loved it as he outlined the two-point program the colored citizen now has and is working to accomplish.

The program is simple:

1. The complete elimination of segregation in every institution of the public.

2. The same opportunity to work as now enjoyed by whites.

In seeing that this program is adopted, Dr. Johnson says we are going through a "second emancipation" and he pointed out for the white politicians that the colored vote is going to weigh heavily in this "emancipation."

Any aspirant for office who agrees with this program, Republican or Democrat, will draw support from colored voters.

But any candidate who is against it will, in retrospect, draw colored opposition.

As Dr. Johnson pointed out, the colored citizenry has "the power to enforce," only the "power to persuade."

But the vote potential of the colored citizen is a powerful persuader. And the fact that the politicos recognize this potential was demonstrated by the manner in which they turned out and bid for the vote of colored citizens last Sunday.

Such a turnout should also serve as a needler to those who have been yet to register.

And while we plan to "count our blessings," as Governor McKeldin suggested, to "prepare ourselves as Dr. Byrd advised and to shake hands again with Mr. Mahoney, we also plan to engage all our powers for the program of the colored citizen as outlined by Dr. Johnson.

As Howard University's able president pointed out, the eyes of some 500,000,000 colored peoples elsewhere in the world are on the United States and the manner in which she solves her race "problem."

This "second emancipation" can make or break America as a leader in the world.

But we must be alert too and aware of the Jimmy Byrnesses, whom Dr. Johnson called "the greatest enemy we have and one of the greatest threats to democracy in the world."

Meanwhile, if we're in the midst of a "second emancipation," we're happy to be around at such a time. The AFRO will surely do its utmost to bring it about.

Just a reminder for Mr. Sodaro

Anselm Sodaro has announced the appointment of another assistant state's attorney. There are now 15 lawyers working on his staff.

But not one is colored.

Following Mr. Sodaro's election he was visited by a delegation representing the Monumental City Bar Association 'asking that one of their members be named an assistant state's attorney.

The group pointed out to Mr. Sodaro the fact that more than half the defendants appearing in the criminal courts and who appear in his office for violations of domestic relations are colored.

At that time Mr. Sodaro promised then to name a colored assistant when a vacancy occurred.

When a vacancy did exist and was filled, but not by a colored attorney, another MCBA delegation visited the state's attorney.

Again Mr. Sodaro promised to appoint a colored assistant when a vacancy occurred.

Since then other replacements have been made in his office but none has been colored.

And last week, once again Mr. Sodaro named a new assistant. This one was no replacement but an addition to the staff since the state's attorney had asked the Supreme Bench permission to name a new assistant because of the heavy work load in his office.

Deeds, as the state's attorney well knows, are what people remember. They also can remember empty promises.

With his term in office near expiration it would seem that Mr. Sodaro would be mending his fences instead of making holes in them.

He certainly owes the colored citizenry of Baltimore some explanation. And if one is forthcoming it should prove interesting.

Dr. Byrd makes fantastic remarks

Harry Cole makes a good point when he says that Dr. Byrd opposed admission of colored students to the University of Maryland Law school.

But, Judge O'Dunne, first, and then the Court of Appeals admitted colored students to the Law School, despite his determined opposition.

They had been qualified to enter for many years before they were actually admitted in 1936.

The fact is W. Ashbie Hawkins graduated from the law school in 1891 when it was the Maryland Law Institute; so for 50 years graduates of Baltimore high schools have been admitted to the leading universities of this country.

Many of them finished with highest honors. Over a thousand of them are studying on Maryland state scholarships in important universities of the country.

Therefore, there is no question about graduates of local high schools being prepared to study in any department of the University of Maryland.

No wonder Mr. Cole, in an article on this page, calls Dr. Byrd's statement at the Emancipation Celebration Sunday unbelievable and fantastic when he suggested that the colored people ought to be prepared before they ask to be admitted to the best institution their taxes provide.

Segregated amateur teams

There may be some Baltimoreans who are wondering why the AFRO ignored last Sunday's sports rally at Clifton Park Junior high school where 400 amateur football players were honored.

We ignored it simply because it was strictly a jim crow setup.

Champion teams were awarded in the unlimited-class, intermediate class, junior class, midget-class, midget-class (120 pounds), CYO parochial and Mt. Washington midgets.

There was also one other class of champions.

It included only the colored 18-21-year-old champions.

We're for sports all the way. But for the life of us we can't lend our support to a segregated setup such as this one, sponsored by a daily newspaper with the approval of the Bureau of Recreation.

With national amateur and professional sports becoming more and more integrated, it certainly seems unnecessary to promote jim-crow sports programs.

It's actually a case of backing a dying cause.

Students are students

Dr. Leon Eisenberg, in a front page story in this edition, contends a Morgan college news release quoted him inaccurately when it reported he said colored students can not be taught in the same manner as white students.

Actually, Dr. Eisenberg says, he told a Morgan faculty meeting:

"Intelligence is distributed equally among all races, and teaching is based upon the same principles for all. The answer to individual psychological and social problems lies in elimination of segregation in education and fair employment legislation. . ."

We're glad that Dr. Eisenberg did not permit this misquotation to stand.

POLITICS: Republican Viewpoint

By HARRY A. COLE

Last Sunday, during the 91st celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation, Dr. Harry (Curly) Byrd, gubernatorial candidate on the Democratic ticket, was called upon to make a few remarks.

Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president of Howard University, is a distinguished, just given, in his mode of speech, eloquent, manner. He did address and the crowd was excited and eager to learn what any speaker could say, lost he suffer by comparison.

Dr. Byrd arose and stood before the rostrum. He said, among other things, "It's all right to talk, but fundamentally you have got to give the colored people the opportunity to prepare themselves to take their place in other skills, that will enable them to get economic freedom."

This was a most unbelievable and fantastic statement for Dr. Byrd to make at such a auspicious occasion.

Perhaps the fact that a candidate needs everybody's vote made him say this thing.

Might Have Forgotten

I wonder if Dr. Byrd believes that colored people have opportunities are of just plain stupid.

He might have forgotten but I feel certain that the audience didn't forget that he has opposed every effort we've made to get these same opportunities at the University of Maryland.

It was while Dr. Byrd was president in 1935 that colored students were denied admission to the Schools of Nursing, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Medicine, and the Graduate School.

Took No Stand

He took no stand to say that he thought We were "entitled to equal opportunity" then. He endorsed, directed, and then signed the court battles on these measures of inequality. Does anybody change his spots?

His reign at College Park is a true index as to his regard for our rights. And may I say that these remarks are not from partisan allegience; I cannot say the same for Mr. Mahoney.

Dr. Johnson said that if a candidate does not foster your interests, vote him down.

As the election comes nearer, each of us must remember that South Carolina has its Byrnes, Georgia has its Talmadge; Mississippi has its Bilbo; and Maryland has its Byrd.

We shall rue the day we allowed abet this man's ascendency to Annapolis.

Sob Sister

By RUTH JENKINS

News item: Neighborhood teen agers accused a West Havenn, Conn., housewife of calling their volley ball which bounced over her backyard fence.

They apologized when she found it in the seat of some long underwear hanging on the line.

Turnabout is fair play. Now it's the underwear stealing from the students.

Little Things

By JESSE H. WALKER

THAT SPEECH — Dr. Mordecai Johnson was interrupted by applause 25 times during his "Second Emancipation" speech last Sunday.

Lady sitting next to me kept saying, "Go on boy, everytime the good doctor would make a telling point. She enjoyed the speech as much as everyone else in the audience.

There must have been a few visitors seated on the dais, however, who squirmed every now and then. But a vote in a vote and Grand Master Willard Allen had all the politicians there.

Mayor Was Absent

That is nearly all. Mayor D'Alesandro missed it again. But he sent his regular Northwest emissary, Walter Beuchelt, an assistant in the mayor's office.

Maybe Mr. Beuchelt should join the article for governor. He's certainly been in this section enough times to have made friends.

And friends are votes, William!

And speaking of the gubernatorial race, the three candidates present Sunday left the following impression.

Governor McKeldin: "Confusions say he who do not bolster own horn will not get re-elected.

George P. Mahoney: An out and out appeal for votes.

"Curley" Byrd: Cautious to outlandish to absurd.

ORGANS — Marlowe Morris, whom I used to know as a piano player on 52nd street back there then, is now caressing the organ keys at the Club 1017 nightly.

He's there for six weeks.

SYMPATHY NOTE—City reporter Herb Mangrum really had his share of tough luck last week. First his mother in Texas had a stroke, then his father took ill with pneumonia.

Herb had to fly home last Friday to see about his folks. On Saturday his wife had to make the long trip: her mother had a stroke, too.

So; count your blessings!

Speak Your Piece

TV show segregated?

Dear AFRO:

We are writing to you pertaining to the television program, "Juke Box Hop." In one of your earlier articles, you stated that the program was not discriminated.

We have reason to believe that this is not so. Why is it always so important to name the school attended in writing for passes to the program?

We don't see why the school is so important if the program is not discriminated. We are writing in behalf of the many teenagers who wish to attend the show.

We would be grateful if your newspaper would look into the matter.

LOUISE LEE, MURIEL LEE and OPHELIA GILLIS, of Douglass; ROSE ANN MOORE, LOLA SATTERFIELD and CAROLYN TILLET of Carver; DRUCILLA NORMAN, RUTH JESTER and HELEN JESTER of Dunbar.

Praise for Mr. Short

Dear AFRO:

We always shower beautiful floral expressions upon our relatives and friends when they pass away, but I would like to give a few verbal orchids to a Mr. Ashton Short who is very much alive.

He has for many years coached a group of boys known as "The New Era Yanks."

Incidently, Mr. Short as manager, Rudolph Wilkens as head coach, and Clifton Byrd as trainer were recognized as champs in unlimited football, Sunday, at Clifton Park Junior high school and were awarded beautiful trophies.

I have watched with great interest the time, the patience, the sacrificed energy that this Short "fellow" has given underwear hanging on the line. It's the underwear stealing from the students.

To take time out and encourage this sort of fair play with our youth.

Orchids may be lovely to look at but moral, civic and tolerant attitudes, are the shoulders that have to carry the load.

My motto is give the flowers to the living as we can not smell them when we are dead.

LORETTA O. VALENTINE

(Editor's Note: Mr. Short undoubtedly is to be praised for his work with youth. However, we disagree with the segregated program dealt with here. See editorial on this page on "Segregated amateur teams.")

Express thanks

Dear AFRO:

The Myrtle Avenue Valiant Neighborhood Club, for adults and the Junior Improvement and Savings Club for young people, wish to express their deepest thanks and appreciation for the publicity given to their health and educational program which was held at Mt. Lebanon Baptist church, Dec. 13.

The program was well attended and many expressions have been received concerning the merits of the occasion for better health and educational information.

As chairman of the program, I also wish to express my sincere thanks for your splendid co-operation which is nothing new but characteristic of you as an outstanding leader.

If more of our leaders would take time to help neighborhood groups to dispel ignorance and misunderstandings, our communities would be better places in which to live.

Dr. ISAAC H. YOUNG

Holiday mail

Dear AFRO:

The Baltimore post office, during the pre-Christmas period 1953, handled more Christmas greeting cards than during any similar period in any previous year. I am proud to say that the huge volume of mail received at the post office prior to Dec. 24 was delivered before Christmas.

I am gratified at this accomplishment, and I am sure you "Mail Early for Christmas Campaign" and the distribution of labels to patrons to be placed by them on greeting cards separated into bundles addressed for delivery in Baltimore and also for out-of-town points, were responsible for this successful achievement.

It would not have been possible for the personnel of the post office to have attained this goal without your assistance and that of similar agencies in helping me in publicizing the campaign and for this I offer you my most sincere thanks and assure you of my grateful appreciation.

NEAL A. SIBLEY
Postmaster

Grateful family

Dear AFRO:

I am writing to thank you and all the wonderful people for making it possible for us to have had the best Christmas we have had for many a day. It was a Christmas I'll never forget.

The children were so happy that it made tears come into my eyes to see them. I was so full of joy, words can't explain how we thank those many people whom we don't even know.

Here are the names of some of the people who helped us:

Ambrosia of DMCC Brotherhood; John and Mary Gross, Shiloh Benefit Club, Inc., N. E. Neighborhood Civic Club, Senior Cluster No. 2, of Faith Baptist church, Mr. and Mrs. Moses Watkins, Intermediate class of Bethel AME church, Junior class, Fairfax Progressive association, and School No. 115.

This year, once again and may all of you continue in your great work in helping your fellow man, I will never forget Dec. 24.

The GLASCO FAMILY
2425 Barclay st.

Hodge-Podge

By R. Matthews

It takes an emergency to bring out the good in people.

People may go for months without speaking, but just as soon as an emergency situation comes around, they'll pitch in shoulder to shoulder until the crisis is passed.

A couple of days after the big snowstorm of 1954 hit, was out trying to get Hezzy, our recalcitrant automobile, to move forward.

Unfortunately, the menagerie is situated on a hill, and Hezzy was parked in front of the house. Tried every trick in the book to get that car moving and succeeded only in jamming it harder against the curbing.

Just as I was about to give up in despair, along comes a neighbor who lives a few houses down the block.

"Having trouble," he drawled. Resisted the impulse to give him a sharp answer. Merely answered:

"Yep."

"Hold on a minute; we'll get you out," he said and immediately disappeared.

He returned a few moments later with a basket of ashes, a shovel; and two other men.

In a matter of minutes they had Hezzy away from the curb and headed in the direction I wanted to express my thanks for the help but was shrugged off with:

"Shucks, where I come from, everybody helps his neighbor when he's having a little trouble like this."

Makes one stop and think a little, doesn't it?

If You Ask Me

By B. M. Phillips

THE ANDERSON CONCERT RECALLS OTHER DAYS

The Marian Anderson concert at the Lyric Theatre here on Friday had historical significance. It marked the first time that theatre has had colored performers in over 40 years.

Among the proudest of the 3,000 odd spectators were Dr. and Mrs. Barnett M. Rhetta Sr., who attended with members of their family.

Mrs. Phillips

Both Dr. and Mrs. Rhetta are music lovers. He has been a stockholder of the Lyric Theatre Company since about 1913.

They recall days when the theatre did not bar colored artists. Many of them sang there at the turn of the century.

The 1926 appearance of Roland Hayes likewise stands out in their memory. Also the many times our people used the Lyric for social events, including dances.

But Mrs. Rhetta said last week's concert was a real thrill because it was one of America's truly great artists who broke the theatre's silly color bar.

Another music lover, Louise Kerr Hines says the Lyric concert recalls for her another Anderson appearance some years ago.

Sponsors were Lewis H. Murray, school principal, and the late Miss Alma Kelly, beloved school teacher.

That Sunday concert was held at the Royal Theatre. It too had a dramatic angle...she remembers:

"The curtain parted to reveal Miss Anderson standing in the curve of the Grand piano.

It was not until after the concert that the audience learned the famed singer had a fractured ankle. She had to be carried on and off the stage!

Last week's concert was sponsored by Baltimore Fellowship headed by energetic Mae Gellman, who was happy as can be about the community support.

Another happy concert-goer: Gov. Theodore McKeldin.

He enthusiastically applauded every number. He and Mrs. McKeldin were seated in a box along with the Rev. and Mrs. John Tilley. The Rev. Mr. Tilley is the executive of the sponsoring group.

Some of the concert-goers were a bit too enthusiastic.

They jumped the gun with their applause. They clapped before Miss Anderson had found her last note, and dropped her hands signalling the end of the number.

But, I'm told, many Anderson enthusiasts do this. They can't wait to tell her how much they enjoy her music.

THE MAIL MAN BRINGS THESE NOTES

Mr. X, a civilian employee at a nearby Army post, says:

"You chanced print my name because I might lose my job. But after reading your column last week, I had to write and tell you that the smear tactics described in your column really have already affected many people here.

"I can't use supply names, but I know of some people who have been removed from their jobs because some careless person said they thought they were Red sympathizers.

"I believe in putting Communists out of important jobs where they can do harm to our country, but crucifying innocent people is not getting the real culprits.

C. J. Lee writes: "Now you're in a class with Ma Bethune, who tried to get the Red baiters straight too. Calling you Red is like calling Ma Bethune white. Taint so."

Madge Hibler, former Morgan College instructor in speech, writes from Los Angeles: "I saw an AFRO last week and really enjoyed reading it.

"Despite the wonders of California, I get lonely for Baltimore. I'm leaving here from Morgan to study at the University of Southern California.

Mrs. Ella Graves ("Theora") is recovering from surgery at her home in Paris. However, her letter makes no mention of illness. Instead, she writes of their daughter, Bunny:

"She is quite a young lady, almost as tall as I. Dancing is her first love and she is studying under one of the great ex-ballerinas of Russia.

"She is in a French school and believe me there work hard keeps her feet to the fire. She entered secondary school this fall and pulls a 5-5 shift four days a week. The fifth day is 9 to 5:30.

"On Monday when she brought home her report card, I was aware that she was more hesitant than usually in giving it to me to sign. This proved to be her little joke.

"Lo and behold, she was first in her class. We are very proud. She is the only American child in the school and all instruction is in French. Bunny really has to dig.

"If living over here has taught her anything, it has taught her how to study."

THIS AND THAT ABOUT A NUMBER OF THINGS

The three-story house at 2035 Druid Hill Ave., once the home of the fabulous Democratic leader, Tom Smith, has been converted into apartments.

Until recently it was occupied by his sister-in-law, Mrs. Estella Lee. The Lee Family now resides on Holmes ave.

Mrs. Henry Welcome (Verda) is good and mad at the Daily Record. (The paper that publishes court house doings). She has a right to be.

When the Record listed grand jurors in its Tuesday issue, it dropped the "Mrs." from in front of her name. All other women members had titles.

One of the harder working civic groups in our city is the Myrtle Avenue Valiant Neighborhood Club for adult members; and the Junior Improvement and Savings Club for the younger residents.

Dr. Isaac H. Young is one of the leaders. He and his co-workers deserve credit for their fine work.

The Urban League Auxiliary, headed by Mrs. Catherine Adams, opened its annual membership campaign on Thursday. For $2 you can renew your membership. Do it today.

Creston Welingust and his co-workers in the March of Dimes drive likewise deserve your support. The dime you give today may be the salvation of your child tomorrow. No one knows where polio might strike.

Bob Turpin, who used to be a Baltimore visitor back in 1928-30 when he resided in Somerset, Pa., with my Aunt Sue Purdy, is now a Richmond, Va., business man.

He conducts barber, radio and television schools in the Virginia city. He and his wife, the former Leola Cephas, have two boys, Roland, 11, and Kenneth, 8.

And to think the last time I saw him he was only a boy of twelve!

Speaking of Virginia residents, Samuel H. Tucker of Emporia, one of the lawyers who worked on the school segregation cases before the Supreme Court, is an unusual person.

He passed the Virginia bar when he was only 20 years old and without going to law school!

He lives in a law office in Alexandria, Va., where he was born. From the time he was old enough to read and write.

Big question Baltimoreans are waiting to be answered: Does the Baltimore Police Department really promote men on the basis of qualifications?

Reason: Officer Harry Scott stands no. 3 on the list of men eligible for promotion to sergeant.

Grace Presbyterian Church now has a white choir director and organist. He is Herman Schwarz. He begins work February 1.

In his new post he succeeds Mrs. Ethel Schweder who gave up the job because of his heavy schedule at Morgan where he is a member of the music department and director of the school's bands.

Morgan President Martin Jenkins suggested to the church that with Mr. Strother's busy schedule at the college and his work on his doctorate at New York University, he might be overtaxing himself to assume other duties and Morgan would like to be without the services of one of our most valuable church members.

THOUGHT OF WEEK

Even a stopped clock is right twice a day.— Thomas A. Edison.

POET'S NOOK

LITTLE CUDDLE UP

A year or two and you will toddle
round the house with ease,
And say cute things that you'll
forget that you had never
said.
And in the attic we will make,
an everlasting shrine
Of everything so dear to us, like
dolls and shoes and bed,
Then we will pass as very fast
and you will go through school:
can see you graduating with a
big bouquet of roses!
And I'm sure you'll be a June
bride, as lovely as a queen,
Of course that is and if the boy
next door proposes.
Then time flies swiftly, within our
hearts,
Our baby with her pup,
Then one day I know it will come, will
always be
Our little cuddle up.
PAUL D. McALLISTER

The sad case of 'Houdini Jr.'

Elsewhere in this issue the AFRO has not only identified by name the 14-year-old boy known as "Houdini Jr." but his picture also appears.

Usually, in criminal cases involving juveniles, the AFRO withholds names.

In the case of "Houdini Jr." or Calvin Gerard Lee Jr. which is the real name, we made an exception.

Why? Because the authorities have felt that young Lee can no longer be treated as a juvenile. They transferred his case from the juvenile court to criminal court.

For a 14-year-old boy to rate 21 burglary charges and have bail of $21,000 set on behalf him is no longer a juvenile situation. It becomes a police problem which has to be met with adult methods.

The "Fagin" who directed young Lee's lucrative 6-months' sojourn into crime has been given four years in the House of Correction. It is he and the broken home from which the boy comes, which undoubtedly are to blame for Lee's actions.

It is unfortunate, but the boy's several escapes from Boys' Village have proven that the state institution for boys cannot cope with him.

Boys' Village isn't the place for "Houdini Jr." But it is our opinion, neither is a prison full of hardened criminals.

This case certainly points up the need for a rehabilitation institution for youngsters who have started off on the wrong foot.

Reporters' Report To The People

Lonesomania

By BUDDY LONESOME

The meeting sponsored every year by Masonic Grand Master Willard Allen, was, this year, the most interesting I've ever attended.

I think the political significance of the appearance of two avowed gubernatorial candidates, George P. Mahoney and Dr. H. C. Byrd, and our affable Governor McKeldin, who will probably run again, was good.

One other expected candidate, our esteemed Lord Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro, conferred to his usual practice in past years and was not able to attend.

Blasts Byrnes

Dr. Johnson gave a fiery address in which he lambasted James F. Byrnes, Governor of South Carolina, as "the greatest enemy we have and one of the chief dangers to World Democracy.

"I've known Jimmy Byrnes for 27 years and he has always been against everything I've held dear. He has been trying to lead us down a road which if we followed it would destroy our leadership in the world."

But Dr. Johnson, president of Howard University, was not always so serious throughout his speech. Like the master orator, he knew moments when humor was needed to retain his audience's interest.

At one moment, after reminding that one-third of the world population is colored, he lauded the beauty of the colored race. "God wasn't satisfied with making day, he also made night."

Recalls Indian Trip

Dr. Johnson then recalled a trip made to India in which he saw the "most beautiful creatures that God ever made on this earth." The dynamic speaker then evoked laughter by say ing "they'll make a man take off his glasses to see whether this is real."

Laughter again convulsed the audience when after paying tribute to his attractive wife, Dr. Johnson said: "If she ever threw me over, I know 20 million other colored women would like to be able to speak to."

But the most potent statement Dr. Johnson made, and one that was of particular import in view of the candidates present and the impending election was:

"Political candidates must be closely questioned as to their stand on segregation and FEPC. If he says no, we must pray-erfully and lovingly—vote him down.

"If yes, we must support him no matter what party he belongs to."

A fine blueprint to follow.

Noteworthy

By HERBERT MANGRUM

It's surprising what a few bright colors in the right places can do for the personality of an individual.

Take the Northwestern police station. Until a few weeks ago it was of the opinion that the busiest station house in the city was also the most dismal looking.

Even months before when I overheard Inspector Oscar Lusby ask Magistrate Everett Lane what color he wanted the court room painted, I could foresee nothing in the way of improvement.

Approved Only One

Prior to then I had seen only one station house that met with my approval, that was Pine street.

Colors affect people in many ways. Northwestern at one time left me with that sort of morning after feeling. That's changed now.

When a person walks into the building these days there is a kind of cheerful feeling in the air. Of course the feeling may depend on the kind of business you are there to transact.

I even think that new "cool" green color has had an effect upon the prisoners. Weeks ago I noticed that when a person was brought in, he complained in a language that would make a sailor blush. Haven't heard such talk in quite awhile.

Can't say that I know what it's like in the cell block, never been back there, but if it's anything like the front, well even a prisoner with the d.t's can sleep with ease.

By the way, heard the story about the local doctor who hit the numbers after placing a bet with his girlfriend?

He hit for $6,000 but sweetie wouldn't pay off. Told the good doc that over the past years her love for him had been worth that much. Don't sniggle, it's true.

Sightseeing

By JAMES D. WILLIAMS

Snow, snow, beautiful snow. It looks so wonderful when you are sitting in a warm house gazing through a window, preferably a storm window.

But, George, when you have to trudge from a spot not far removed from North avenue, and Harford rd. to Morgan Park at 3 a.m. in the cold cold morning in the midst of a blinding snow storm, you get so hard you can't stand the sight of the white stuff.

On my way home on Monday, had to stop behind a stalled automobile. Naturally the motor of my car picked that particular time to cut off. Pushed the starter, the motor comes up with a feeble moan, and that was the end of that.

No motor, no heat, no taxicabs, no streetcars, in fact nothing except that snow. Only two things to do, either sit and freeze or walk and freeze. I chose to walk, I should have sat.

Nothing Like It

There is nothing like a nice walk in the brisk air to make you feel good, but Monday morning that air was just to brisk. By the time I reached Morgan Park, without seeing a sign of any available transportation, I felt like a frozen mackeral.

George, I was so cold I couldn't sit down, and when you get that cold you have had it. So that is the reason that after my retirement I shall move to Florida where they don't know snow, snow, beautiful snow.

Young Musician

One of the talented young musicians in town is Bill Wilson, who is currently playing at a local night club. He bears a distinguished name, being the son of Llewellyn Wilson, the late and beloved music teacher at Douglass High school.

"Junior" is quite a musician and in the event that you have not heard him at work, you have missed a treat. His sister is Mrs. Charlotte Dowdie, who is quite active in the work of the local council of the National Council of Women.

Which brings to mind the fact that the youth group of the Council has opened a members' shop drive. Any young woman looking for a chance to take a more active role in the life of her community, can find ample opportunity with the NCNW.

Tidbits

By SHIRLEY KYLE

If these snowy days are a prelude to what is to come in future years, then Baltimore has better invest some money into more mechanical snowplows.

I haven't seen that much snow yet, though the semi - cleaned streets indicate that the city does have a few in operation.

It's terrible how an average snowfall (that's the way Mid-westerners would describe it) can tie up traffic around here.

And if the city had to contend with as much snow as that which falls in Minnesota, I guess nothing would come to a halt.

JUSTICE AND LOTTERY

It's going to be much sledding for those convicted of lottery charges this year.

Though Judge Emory H. Niles, now sitting in criminal court, refused to comment on his plans for sentencing the offenders, indications are that he will follow the pattern already set by Judges Joseph Sherbow, E. Paul Mason and Joseph L. Carter . . . heavy jail sentences, high fines.

"HOUDINI JR."

A few months ago, I visited "Houdini Jr.'s" family, at that time not realizing that he was the son of the partially blind mother who is trying to raise her two other children, ages 3 and 7, in a dirty rat-infested three-room apartment.

The mother, a comparatively young woman, is on relief; her husband having pulled out sometime ago. She told me then, that her life with the children had been touch and go all the way.

Under conditions like these, it's little wonder that the 14-year-old youngster would boast that "larceny is my business."

Ironically, however, in one of his escapades, "Houdini Jr." robbed a radio from the very man who was trying to help the family find better living conditions.

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Mrs. Landis says she's destitute

Still believes her husband innocent in Bureau theft

WASHINGTON

Mrs. Mamie Landis, arrested with her husband, James, in the $160,000 Bureau of Engraving theft, in an exclusive AFRO interview Wednesday, revealed that she is nearly destitute and said she still believed in the innocence of her husband.

The 28-year-old matron, now released under $10,000 bond, told a reporter: "I have only $10 in my pocketbook."

She stated that although her friends and the neighbors in Addison Chapel apartments where she lives had been "wonderful," there were many financial problems to be settled. "Someone has got to help me," Mrs. Landis said, crying.

Children Asleep

The two children, Kirk, 17 months, and Wayne, three, were taking a mid-day nap as the slender mother worried about their future.

"I am thinking about going to the welfare," she said, "or any agency that will help me."

She sobbed that she wanted to work.

"But who would care for the children?" she said. "It would cost me $80 a month for the nursery, and I pay $72 a month for rent."

May Move

Shrugging her shoulders, Mrs. Landis said:

"But we'll get along. If worse comes to worse, we'll move to cheaper quarters. And I have lots of relatives. There's always my grandmother . . ."

She wiped her eyes and brought out the family album. There were pictures of herself and her husband, who is still in District jail under $50,000 bond.

Write Often

One photograph showed Mr. and Mrs. Landis, each holding one of the children.

"The children think their father is ill," she said. "That's what I have been telling them."

She said they write to their father every night. (Mrs. Landis is not allowed to visit her husband.)

Translated Scratches

Recalling the letter written the previous night, Mrs. Landis said:

"Of course, they just make scratches, but I wrote to James: 'Just translating your sons' writing. It says they are being good and cleaning their plates. They say they hope you get well soon.'"

Mrs. Landis smiled wanly. She was wearing blue jeans. Her hair fell in a soft halo about her face. In the back, it hung loosely to her shoulders.

"The other day," she said, "Wayne asked me about his father."

She quoted him as saying: "Mother, is daddy's cold very bad?" "Yes," she said she answered: "Very, very bad."

The phone rang. Mrs. Landis answered, talked a minute to a woman friend, and resumed her position, crosslegged on the arm of a chair.

Her bobby sox were white. Her blouse was a checked brown. A plaid overcoat was thrown across the chair.

She began to talk about the days when she was 11 years old, and met the man who later became her husband.

"We were introduced through a mutual friend," she said.

The attractive matron said it was "just a boy and girl romance."

"We went to movies, shows; oh it was wonderful," she declared. Her eyes sparkled.

She said they went to drug stores for their favorite order of strawberry milk shakes.

Married Young

At 15, Mrs. Landis, then Miss Grant, married. "He had already finished school," she said, speaking of her husband. "I was a pupil at Garnett Patterson high school."

The THEFT? "Well," Mrs. Landis said, "a lot of people have wondered if I knew about the money, and how a wife could be kept from knowing."

These people, Mrs. Landis said, did not understand or know James Rufus Landis as she does.

"He's a quiet sort of a guy," she said. "He would come in and read the newspapers all afternoon, and never say a word, except when he first came."

Mrs. Landis declared that her husband "kept his worries to himself."

Gambles A Lot

She said that when he gave her extra change, he told her not to be "out gambling."

"He used to gamble a lot," she said.

Speaking of her father, Irving Grant, who reported the theft to a state trooper, after his son-in-law allegedly requested him to bury the money, Mrs. Grant said:

"I don't blame my father at all. I would have done the same thing if I had known about it."

Handsome Father

Crossing the room, she picked up a photograph of her father and smiled.

"He's a real handsome guy," she said. "Right now, about 6 ft. 4 inches tall and weighs over 250 pounds."

Returning to her former position, she sat quietly for a moment. Her brown eyes wandered over the room.

The ironing board was in the kitchen. The entire apartment was carelessly arranged, but not in disorder. Newspapers protected part of the waxed floor.

Gay flowered curtains hung at the window.

What Motive?

What could have been the motive for the theft? She didn't admit that Landis did it but she said:

"It could have been for the children who suffer with asthma.

"It could be for myself. I'm destitute. Insulating qualities keep your home warmer in winter—cooler in summer. Cost is low and it's the last. No more painting or repairs! Increases the value of your home. Look for this hallmark of quality. Free estimate gladly.

MRS. MAMIE LANDIS
Says she's destitute

—Florida Bound

(Continued from Page 1)

would leave Middlebourg at this time, considering her serious illness.

There is considerable speculation in the little town of Middleburg among its some 500 colored citizens that Grant has been called to Florida by his employer to discuss the amazing case.

Believe Employer Bondsman

The speculation also is strong that it was Mr. Phillips himself who was the mysterious anonymous person who put up the $10,000 bond to free Mrs. Landis while her husband remains in jail in Washington.

Mrs. Grant is in bed in the neat, 2-story, white house down in a draw which looks up to the huge brick mansion of Mr. Phillips, high atop a hill two miles southwest of Middleburg itself. The estate is called Locust Hill.

Meanwhile, grim - faced residents in the town by-ways are still shocked by the startling disclosure that one of their number had been used as a key figure in crime which was heard all over the United States.

Citizens Approve Act

There are unanimous in their opinions that Irving Grant—who is 55—did the right thing in not becoming a party to what he felt was illegally performed by the handsome young man who married Grant's only child.

Incidentally, it was also learned that Mrs. Landis is not the daughter of the present Mrs. Grant. She is the daughter of Mrs. Grant's first wife, who is now dead.

Speaking of Mr. Grant, neighbors said he was a conscientious man, one who took an interest in things in the community.

Active Civic Worker

They said he was often "up in town" and that he was an ardent worker for the community center, located next door to the Mount Olive Baptist church.

They said, too, that Grant was a member of the Mount Olive Baptist church, which is pastored by a Rev. Mr. Duvall, who lives in Washington.

Said Fred Washington, who operates a restaurant on the main street near the center of the town:

"Sure, Irving did the right thing in turning in that money. If he hadn't have done it, he would have been just as much in it as those other fellows. I don't blame him for doing what he did."

Wouldn't Have Made Sense'

John F. Moton, who runs a taxicab service, and a Middleburg fraternal leader, said: "That wouldn't have been any sense in Grant getting all mixed up in that mess."

Mr. Dodson, the caretaker, said: "It sure was a mess. I was right here when it happened, and none of us know just what to say. I would have done just what Irving did if it had been me."

Mr. Dodson's wife is attending Mrs. Grant since she has been brought back from the hospital.

Born Near Estate

Mr. Grant is a native of the Plains, Va., another small town 13 miles south of Middleburg. His father was the late Edward Grant, and an uncle, William Grant, lived in Middleburg until his death a few years ago.

The citizens all respect Mr. Grant and speak of him as a friendly and conscientious man.

His attributes of honesty which were evidenced in reporting the alleged visit of his son-in-law with the huge sum of stolen $20 bills, comes naturally from the honest and rather plain environment in which he was raised and has been working since entering the service of Mr. Phillips.

Not A Fraternal Man

He is not a fraternal-minded man, and is not a member of any secret order, as far as could be learned—at least not the Elks or the Masons.

His daughter, Mamie, was not born in Virginia, but in Washington, the AFRO was informed. She never lived on the Phillips estate with her father, friends said.

Exactly where Mr. Grant now is, is still a closely kept secret. It is known that he had expressed fears that his life was in danger as a result of what the underworld calls "squealing" on his son-in-law.

Landis Frequent Visitor

Townsfolks also revealed that young Landis had often visited Middleburg and had come "up in town" on some of those visits. There were many who knew him, and all were shocked when the news was broken that he had been the Phillips estate with the huge sum of money.

Slowly Middleburg is wiping the daze off its face, but the citizens still talk of the theft in hushed and awed whispers.

Bar Association endorses Koger

The Monumental Bar Association met last Saturday night at the Druid Hill YMCA and re-elected the same officers for the year.

The group of lawyers