WHEN YOU FINISH READING YOUR AFRO PASS IT ALONG TO A FRIEND

SCHOOL No. 183, Lafayette and Carrollton Aves., held its graduation exercises this week. Left to right in informal gathering are Charles E. Brown, principal; Mrs. Clarice J. Nicholson; three top students, Melvin Massey, Charles Pittman and Miss Hattie Leath and Mrs. Elizabeth M. Phillips, member of the city's school board.

400 greet Charles Fletcher at retirement testimonial

A warmth and cordiality generated by a man dubbed "friend of the masses endowed with love for service" pervaded the Alcazar on Friday as more than 400 admiring friends gathered to honor Charles W. Fletcher, Sr. upon the occasion of his retirement from the public schools of Maryland.

Mr. Fletcher had served in the system for more than 35 years, 15 of which had been spent as principal of the Sellers Point High School, of Baltimore County.

TOUCHING tributes ma[de] by phases from the heart manifested both the esteem and love present there. One after the other head table guests represented educational leadership, community life, the home, and the personal life of "the man called Charles" rose to pay him homage.

Superintendent of Schools William Sartorius presented a handsomely framed certificate recognizing his years of service to the state of Maryland. The citation had been signed by State Superintendent Pullen. Norris [C.] director of Schools of Baltimore County, similarly lauded Fletcher on behalf of the Department of Education of Baltimore County.

• • •

DR. EDWARD N. WILSON, lifelong friend provoked a moment of mirth when he referred to having "sulled old Charles' record at Morgan College, noting its contents.

Mr. Wilson referred to Mr. Fletcher as having cast a long shadow for Morgan State. Then followed fraternity brother Houston R. Jackson, Dr. Parlett L. Moore, Mrs. Bernice Hunley, Sollers faculty representative; Mrs. Muddie Rucker, PTA representative; and fellow educators Mrs. Elizabeth W. Williams, vice - principal, Mrs. Frances B. Bruce, and Miss Minnie Woodford, all referred to the honoree for his "good heart" and his "open mind." At the headtable also was Dr. Lillie M. Jackson who had known Mr. Fletcher the longest, for it had been her grandfather, the Rev. Dennis, who had married Mr. Fletcher's grandparents back in 1876, and whose grandmother become the life - long friend of the honoree's grandmother.

THERE WERE also:

Mrs. Edward N. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fletcher, Jr., Mrs. Parlett Moore, Mrs. William S. Sartorius, Mrs. Norris King, Miss Clara Green, general chairman of school hospitality who furnished music for the occasion, Elbert Bishop who presided over the meeting with such carefree abandon that relaxed the audience; James Chambers, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wooten (he is past president of the Baltimore County Board of Education); former Superintendent Stappleton, Dr. Quentin Earhart, Superintendent of Instruction of Baltimore County, and Mrs. Earhart, Joshua Wheeler, an assistant superintendent in administration of Baltimore County;

Dr. George Crawford, assistant superintendent of instruction; Mrs. Mabel Carter and John Dennis, both cousins of the honoree.

FROM POINTS afar came sister, Polly, and husband Dr. H. P. Weedon of Lynchburg - and their daughter, Paula; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Butler of Annapolis; Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Bailey, cousins from Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. Jean Capers, attorney, of Cleveland, Ohio; and Mrs. Fletcher's sisters Mrs. Louise Davis, of New York City and Mrs. Helen Sipper of Roanoke, Va.

THE LADIES chose clothes for azure weather, with a show of arms."

Mrs. Fletcher was eye-catching in a white pique shift with the most delicate lily executed lace inserts which evoked feminine gasps as she stood to receive a large basketful of chrysanthemums in all of the paint box colors.

Happiest person was Mrs. Fannie Howard in raw silk ensemble with the new full length coat, the entire creation in a kaleidoscope of colors. Her companion was Delegate Irma Dixon in mint green sheath. Mrs. Lucille Venture performed her duties as hostess in subtle print georgette with pointed cape that cascaded to the hemline. Pretty parent was Mrs. Ora Coles in black sheer sheath touched here and there with little bows.

And the students came! All chic in lacquered red to azure blue, they stood about recalling days with Mr. Fletcher at Bragg High. Lorraine Alston was one of the evening's smartest sights in blue with black panels as she chatted with Doris Dunston in black with frothy cape, and Delores Green in gold shimmering through a black sheer overlay. Mrs. Parlett Moore wore azure blue with a swish of a georgette collar; Flossie Dedmond defying as usual the cliche wore a cling-ing shift.

Everyone talked about Mrs. Edward N. Wilson, sparkling and lovely in blue No one was more radiant!

MR. FLETCHER was presented a movie camera by his PTA; a large and complete silver punch bowl by the students; an envelope with precious contents from the faculty, and a Stieff silver service in Lady Clare pattern from the citizens committee; sterling silver champagne bucket came from friends of Roanoke, Va.; a purse from Shiloh Baptist Church of Dundalk, and numerous personal gifts.

Fetching sister Polly was tender as she thanked the audience for the "tribute to the senior member of the Fletcher family." She was wearing misty blue georgette ensemble with the new short jacket in alencon.

PROUDEST PEOPLE are the members of the citizens committee who sponsored the affair.

They are Mrs. Myrtice Bennett, Mrs. Zelma Cole Brown, Mr. James Chambers, Co - chairman, Rev. Carlton O. Cooke, the Rev. James A. Everett, Howard F. Flournoy, Mrs. Clara S. Green, Chairman, Wilford Griffin, Mrs. Bernice Hunley, Mrs. Della Majette, Mrs. Julia Medley, Mrs. Joseph O. Woodfolk, and Mrs. Nina O. Ringgold.

Among those present were: -

Messrs and Mesdames Leroy Brown, Rowland Harris, Arthur Lamb, Alan D. Brown, Theodore Williams, Carlton Cooke, Norman Green, Percy Paskey, Phillip Strapham, Edward Thornton, Robert Moore, Birnn Cleveland, James H. Cheatham;

Messrs and Mesdames John T. Brown, Samuel Mansfield, Henry Patterson, Ray Podenhaphen, James Morton, George Rosedon, George Bennett, Frank Butler, Edwin Chatman, John Dennis;

Messrs. and Mesdames George Gilliam, Edward Wilson, Mark Riddick, Leonard Saunders, Herbert F. Green, Luke Durant, H. Warrington, Talmadge Hill;

Drs. and Mesdames Parlett Moore, Frederick Dedmond, H. R. Jackson, George H. Spaulding;

Mesdames Robert Patterson, James Chambers, Cecil Cooper, John L. Watkins, Joseph Yates, Charles Puckett, Richard Ryan, Mack Simpson, Andrew Suggs, Raymond Tilley, Eugene Turner, Francis Turner, Thomas Wallace, Calvin Brandon, Alvin Carter;

Charles Boulden, L. H. Custis, Arthur Peterson, Richard Thomas, J. Bruce Tunn, Josef Woodfolk, Melville Park, Joseph Jenson, Emerson Lane, James Morton, Ernest Norwood, John Craft, Timothy Douglas;

Norman Green, Thomas Cunningham, Elsworth Dawkins, William Dean, Rowland Harris, William Hurdle, Frederick Johnson, Fred Lockett, Clyde Carter, Wilford Griffin, Williams Easters, Elbert Bishop, H. Rucker, T. Venable, J. Percy Bond, Burgess Knight;

Mesdames Maeve Addison, Lorraine Alston, Eva Ayres, Viola Blow, Annie Byrd, Ada A. Brooks, Eva P. Brooks, Frances B. Bruce, Dorothy Bunne, Leanora Campbell Liscba Christian, Frances Coe, Thelma Coe, Ethel Coleman, Ora Coles, Gwendolyn Lewis, Mesdames Joseph Locke, Catherine Madden, Mae Peck, Otho Pinkett, Mary Poole, Nettie Powell, Helen Sapper, Jeanette Shour, Mattie Carter, Rocen Catlin, Irma Dixon, Helen Edmonds, Rosa Hampton, Ethel Hodges, Fannie Howard;

Mesdames Lillie Adams, Georgiana Barbary, Selma Brown, Beatrice Brown, Sarah Dashiell, Hortense Franklin, Doris Gerrett, Willard Gist, Ruth Law, Marie, Mallary, Julia Med, Ida Theodora Dewson, Annie B. Pitts, Jessie Robinson, Arabella Sass;

Mesdames Nina Bingford, Clara S. Greene, Helen Thornton, Frances Wilds, Lucille Venture, Elizabeth Dave, Delores Faulkner, Emily Hardy, Felicia V. Little, Anna Grant, Elizabeth Parker, Vivian Rowland, Mary Ellen Smythe Ada Vaughn, Frances Watkins;

Mesdames Margaret Watson, Doris Wilkins, Ruth Williams, Martha Wilson, Bertha Wood, Catherine Wyatt, Ruby Wyatt, Rosanna Wynn, Eva Winn, Clara Pitt, Dolores Poole, Elizabeth Randall, Vercine Randolph, Marie Rice, Lottie Robb;

Mesdames Gloria Robertson, Charlotte Scott, Dorothy Smith, Evan Spriggs, Agnes Statham, Betty Statham, Mae Statham, Leona Stokes, Margaret Trent, Vonnella Tyler, Fairlean Holcomb, Clarice Jones, Betty Jordan, Harriet H. Klutz, Mary W. Law, Della Lomax;

Mesdames Inez Lindsey, Clementine Lynch, Della Majette, Jean Green, Frances Patterson, Annie Copland, Patricia Courtan, Dorothy Davenport, Doris Dunston, Alberta Eley, Cecil Fleming, Sylvia Gaylord, Dolores Goode, Emma Graves;

Mesdames Clara Green, Delores Green, Margaret Green, Mary Gwaltney, Lillian Handel, Vyla Harris, Corene Harvey, Pauline Hobbs, Gladys Thompson, Pauline Watts, Maude Barker, Lena K. Lee, Mary Flournoy, Nellie Warrington, Bertha Bennett, Zelma Brown, Ann Hunley, Loretta Statham;

Misses Rose Blow, Elaine Bowne, Patricia Bracket, Louise Davis, Ann Everette, Annie Giltings, Mary Harris, Callie Hosier, Carrie Johnson, Flora McMillian, Ann Parker, Lovie Williams;

Misses Flavia Williams, Ruth Richmond, Bettie Statham, Delia Turner, Floria Holley, Geraldine Jones, Pauline Murray, Doris Norfleet, Verona Oliver, Carol Davis, Hanna Dawson, Geneva Graves, Minnie Holmes, Paula Weedon;

Misses E. Mills, Bertha Sembley, Geraldine Smith, Elizabeth Williams, Constance Young, Sarah Jones, Linda Meeks, Vivian Rowland, Lorraine Alston, Doris Dunston, Delores Green, and the Rev. Anna Dashiell.

NEW TEACHERS — Among the graduates at the Sunday exercises of Towson State Teachers College were these eight young ladies. Left to right: Misses Marva Marshall, Barbara Orr, Ella Fairfax, Sharon Murphy, Bettina Monroe, Louise Cobb, Catherine Brown and Roslyn Heggie. Graduates not shown were Misses Anita Byrd, Earlene Cole and Brenda Roberts, and Rodney Reynolds.

CHARLES FLETCHER

Miss Reada Thompson crowned Youth Service Corps 'Queen'

The Youth Service Corps, one of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority's youth groups, crowned Miss Reada Thomason queen at the Eighth Anniversary Ball and Coronation, recently.

The ball, which was an appropriate climax to the Corps' program for the year, was held in the Christian Center at Morgan State College.

MISS AVONNE BURGE is president of the Corps. Officers also include Misses Sandra Malone, vice president; Patricia Parrish, secretary; and Alicia Butler, corresponding secretary. Other hostesses were:

Misses Sheila Amos, Judy Barbour, Bertha Bishop, Cherrydale Burge, Betty Cotton, Joyce Brown, Carjetta Boothe, Barbara Clegg, Charlene Downs.

Misses Foretta Dunston, Andrea Forrester, Joyce Gibbs, Cora Grooms, Muriel Giles, Michelle Horsey, Cynthia Lindsey, Lorraine Woods, Yvonne Tyson, Reada Thompson, Barbara Edmonds.

Misses Sandra Parish, Delacia Welborne, Patricia Thompson, Evelyn Matthews, Patricia Wilson, Alenette Gail, Cynthia Turner.

Misses Patricia Pinkney, Betty Holt, Ursula Utley, Norcade Lindsey and Ellen Lee.

THEIR GUESTS were:

Misses Peggy Newman, Marlene Howard, Royalette Lancaster, Geneviva Ervin, Cheryl Veney, Ethel Brooks, Diane Williams, Linda Brown, Renee Tylar, Brenda Peoples.

Misses Brenda Henry, Valarie Kimball, Anita Robinson, Peggy Jones, Victoria Potillo, Carol Davis, Sheila Wright.

Misses Carolyn Addison, Margaret Johnson, Mary Alston, Janice Murrow, Gracie Fields, Frances Amos, Joan Matthews, Pat Grinnell, Joan Lee.

Misses Gail McCormick, Barbara Malloy Shelvie Holmes, Vivian Newman, Valerie Banks, Regina House, Elaine Parham, Sandra Oliver, Jean Wilson, Janice Harris, Jackie Shiers.

Misses Bernadette Saunders, Gail Moody, Patricia Johnson, Cecilia McDonald, Renee Freeman, Frances Evans, Linda Oliver, Erica Fry, Shandara Oliver, Ruby Hughlett.

Misses Dodra Jenkins, Iris Harmon, Wanda Fleet, Deborah Curry, Leona Powell, Sheila Thompson, Diance Harris, Jerristene Bell.

Harps, Teresa Kelly, Edith Green, Gloria Green, Beverly Brown, Diane Armstrong, Muriel White.

Freddie Knight, Armous Tinsley, Linwod Foster, Frank Thomas, Samuel Lloyd, El Lyles, Bedford Boles, William Walls, Timmy Porter, David Benjamin, Ernie Torrain.

Henry Ford, David Hurt, Morris Hayes, Robert Hayes, Harvey Thomas, Willia, Wells, Matthew Edmonds, Charles Brio, Richard Jordan, Deroy Simon, Charles Flemmings.

Christopher Wright, Alvin es, Harvey Thomas, William ter Street, Chauncey Crockett, Therman Williams, Gregory Oliver.

Francis Fergis, Nathan iel Smith, Ralph Wright, Leonard Stokes, James Woodson, Gregory Newton, Edward Charles Brogden, Curbean William Johnson, Arnold Taylor.

Dallas Claiborne, Wayne Watkins, Phillip Thomas, George Alexander, Thomas Robinson, Theodore Johnny Edward, Stan Bedford, Gary Cottman.

Robert Hutton, Gobert Morris, James Moore, Melvin Royster, Calvin Styles, Vernon Wright, Reginald Daniels, James Howard, Gregory Davis.

Harry Styles, Walter Malloy, Anthony Hawkins, Carl Pagan, Lee Cornish.

Alvin Webb, Charles Bridges, Edward Drake, Michael Valentine, Walter Wongust, Ray Staples, James Carr, Donnie Carr, William Thomas, Tommy

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In one hemorrhoid case after another, "very striking improvement" was reported and verified by a doctor's observations.

Pain was relieved promptly. And, while gently relieving pain, actual reduction or retraction (shrinking) took place.

And most amazing of all — this improvement was maintained in cases where a doctor's observations were continued over a period of many months!

In fact, results were so thorough that sufferers were able to make such astonishing statements as "Piles have ceased to be a problem!" And among those sufferers were a very wide variety of hemorrhoid conditions, some of 10 to 20 years' standing.

All this, without the use of narcotics, anesthetics or astringents of any kind. The secret is a new healing substance (Bio-Dyne®)—the discovery of a world-famous research institution. Already, Bio-Dyne is in wide use for healing injured tissue on all parts of the body.

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WATE-ON

MISS READA THOMPSON, center, was crowned Zeta's Youth Service Corps Queen by Miss Yvonne Lyson, right, last year's queen, and presented a bouquet of red roses by Miss Avonne Burge, left, president of the organization, at the Eighth Anniversary Ball and Coronation, held in Morgan State College's Christian Center.

WHEN YOU FINISH READING YOUR AFRO PASS IT ALONG TO A FRIEND

JUNE 24

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PLENTY OF SPECIALS!

School System Enters A Season Of Pain

By RALPH MATTHEWS JR.

The people who run Baltimore's public schools are entering a season of pain.

They are being made increasingly and disturbingly aware of the deep discontent, wrath in fact, of colored parents and teachers regarding public school racial policies.

They know that the NAACP and other civil rights organizations threaten court action, massive demonstrations, and other means to achieve a truly integrated school system in Baltimore and elsewhere.

They know there will be increasing confrontations with articulate spokesmen for the 100,000 colored citizens of Baltimore. They know, from their own statistics, that more than 55 per cent of the school population is colored.

They know or should know, that the NAACP which spearheads the new desegregation drive has almost all of Baltimore's old-line colored families in its membership, not to mention thousands of newer citizens.

• • •

THEY KNOW, or should, then that when Mrs. Juanita J. Mitchell stood before the School Board two weeks ago and told the commissioners they must desegregate both classrooms and personnel, she was speaking for a great number of people, many of whom are those nice polite colored school teachers the Department of Education had considered satisfied with the status quo.

Still be heard from are the younger direct action groups like Baltimore CORE, CIG and the spontaneous student movements that spill off local college campuses.

What from their expression will take as the issue of desegregation in public schools mushrooms is anybody's guess.

I will say that this week a leader accosted me stating: "We can begin picketing school board meetings as of right now. School's out, there's plenty of time...and no jobs."

What answer do you give the activists?

• • •

FURTHER, THIS writer, a correspondent during recent parent - pupil strikes against school segregation in Englewood, N.J. and Manhattan, can unequivocally state that hell hath no fury like a colored mother who feels her child is being discriminated against.

It is against the background that we must weigh recent actions, pronouncements and maneuvers by Department of Education officials and some School Board commissioners.

It seems necessary to not only report on the statistical evidence of school segregation here but the thought processes of those who have the responsibility for doing something about achieving true integration.

With a mind then to how school administrators, think, here is a part of a dialogue with Dr. George B. Brain, superintendent of Baltimore schools.

Again, to get things in perspective, this writer contacted Dr. Brain at the time of the Maryland advisory committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission's hearings on discrimination in labor apprenticeship programs.

It was brought out in these hearings that the Department of Education in cooperation with certain trade unions conducted apprenticeship training classes at Mergenthaler Vocational High School.

• • •

WITNESSES TESTIFIED that to their knowledge no colored youths were included in such programs and further that some of the participating unions did not have colored workers in their membership.

If this was so, then the Department of Education was sanctioning segregation by allowing segregated craft unions to use public school facilities and resources.

Dr. Brain was contacted. My conversation was that this newspaper wanted to interview him on the subject of discrimination in apprenticeship programs and other matters.

"Dr. Brain, would you object to use of a tape recorder, so I could either bring a shorthand stenographer or rely on my own note-taking, which ever is most agreeable to you," I said.

"Whatever you choose," he responded.

Dr. Brain had to be out of town on the day of this interview.

I was not to be touch with him again until the morning of the day a parents' group and the NAACP blew a school board meeting sky high with a warning that desegregation was not moving fast enough in local schools.

• • •

THE SCHOOL superintendent was holding a press conference, I was informed. It turned out, rather, to be a conference between Dr. Brain and myself, or further a briefing by him of the Department of Education's position on certain racial matters that might come up in Board meeting that afternoon.

I looked for other press representative. None was on hand during my briefing. To this day, I cannot say whether this constituted a separate but equal press conference or not.

In fairness to Dr. Brain, the dialouge was informal and I did not work as a reporter but as interested listener with some questions to be explored.

First question concerned the apprenticeship program at Mergenthaler that had been hanging fire two months.

Dr. Brain answered: "A real landmark was reached this week when the President issued his executive order on apprenticeship programs. It is a step long overdue. Hereafter we can say to unions, you must admit colored youth."

This was the answer that had concerned the AFRO editors. Had the Department of Education sanctioned segregated apprenticeship training programs?

The superintendent had responded that until the President's order in the first week of June 1963 the Department had not been in a position to make unions conduct integrated programs on public school property.

• • •

HE WAS then asked why the Department of Education had cooperated with the unions in the first place.

"We needed the Federal money. It served the entire gamut of regular daytime vocational classes."

He was then asked why, instead of having a segregated apprenticeship program in the public schools in violation of the Supreme Court decision, did not the Department of Education refuse to conduct any programs.

Dr. Brain looked at me curiously.

Then he pointed out that the Federal monies that fed the apprenticeship programs carried other advantages for the school system's vocational programs.

He wondered if it would have been correct to deprive all youths of this needed programs.

George Brain, a crew-cut youthful looking Pacific Coaster, certainly did not invent or shape Baltimore's public school problems as race is concerned.

He has been here three brief years and formerly headed a far-west public school system where the racial patterns were less rigid, if existent.

• • •

IN THE broadest terms, he is fully aware of racial problems, sources of tension, sources of complaint.

He acknowledge in this discussion awareness of the fact that there are white school administrators with deep - seated prejudices whose performance of duties is colored or blinded by racial attitudes.

He responded that he was aware of a problem few people, colored or white, knew existed in local schools of the inner city.

This is the problem as this writer threw it out to him: there is what might be called a racial class problem below the surface in many all - colored schools. Many inner city teachers, most of whom are colored, are mostly products of teachers' colleges. They often come from lower-income families and teacher college training offers them higher education at lowest cost.

Then they become teachers and because the pattern here has been that colored teachers be assigned to colored schools, these youngsters with their new economic and social status as teachers then are required to teach children from the same socio-economic background they have just escaped.

• • •

A TENSION ensues. The new teacher sometimes resents children who are reminded of their own beginnings. The children sense this resentment and resent in kind and much communication is lost.

Dr. Brain listened to this situation as observed and reported upon by veteran teachers to this writer and nodded agreement. He said he could very well understand such a situation and talked informedly on this problem.

He was then asked, in light of this, would it be best then as some educators advocate, that the healthiest arrangement would be for veteran teachers not prone to this kind of intra-ghetto class tension be placed in inner city classrooms instead of socially insecure young instructors who resent the environment.

He wished this were possible but cited problems that would ensue. Many veteran teachers, white ones at least, have moved out to the suburbs. They, in all frankness tended to resist assignments in colored neighborhoods. There were problems of transportation, "of lone women unescorted after dark in certain neighborhoods."

• • •

HE WAS then asked if understand, as an Isolated example, that just as it is a moral issue to keep black youths from labor training for jobs or to permit white youths to get this training at the expense of blacks, and that it is also a moral issue also to know these things but not speak out against them.

• • •

IN FAIRNESS to the still - new superintendent, there were a number of colored school professionals who knew of the Mergenthaler situation, also. They too were silent.

That is history now. What must be faced now is a path out of the segregation that still exists in local schools.

This week Dr. Brain attended a conference with President Kennedy on educational programs for colored Americans. It is hoped the sense of urgency that the President sounded in his Alabama day speech concerning full rights for all Americans stimulated th local superintendent.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr Brain, at the time of this summarized discussion, wa assured time and space with ing these columns to present his ideas on school matters surrounding racial issues. A questionnaire is being prepared and he has stated he would be pleased to respond. NEXT WEEK: NEW APPROACHES TO INTEGRATION IN SCHOOLS and A TEACHING PROGRAM FOR INNER CITY CHILDREN

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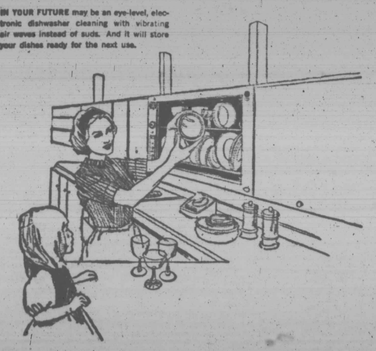

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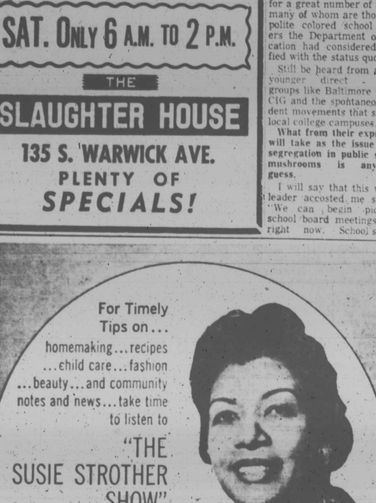

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