"I am a man of peace; God knows how I love peace. But I hope I shall never be such a coward as to mistake oppression for peace."
—Hungarian Freedom Fighter Kossuth

Prayer Of The Week

Help us, O God, to live by faith and not by doubts. May we have that strength which comes from a firm conviction and that peace be found in serving thee. Amen.

Color-Minded Policemen

A colored city detective was this week barred from a pistol meet sponsored by a group of policemen because of his race.

What can colored Baltimoreans expect of law enforcement officers who would exclude a brother officer on such grounds?

If the Maryland Law Enforcement Officers Inc., the offending organization, represents the real attitude of a majority of white policemen, then we must pay all the more heed to increased charges of police brutality directed toward citizens of color.

Further, what kind of justice can a colored citizen expect in a local court set - up which includes a grand jurors association which also has a lily - white membership attitude?

When a white police officer is presented to such a jury of his "peers," and charges of brutality against him are dismissed summarily, the question of a double - standard of justice is a clear - cut probability.

Police who discriminate because of race and grand jury members who discriminate because of race, seem part of the same pattern.

Rising expressions of distrust of law enforcement authority and a hue and cry about police brutality among colored citizens are founded on very sure ground.

We would suggest that the local police department clean house. A law enforcement agency must administer difficult tasks efficiently and racial or religious bigots on a police force make the department's job that more difficult.

We would further suggest that the grand jury system begin to be a more democratic representation of this city as it is. This city is not lily-white, even if some of its appointed servants cling to the delusion that it is.

The City's Thinking

The good people of a block of Dukeland St., many of them AFRO Clean Block workers, taking pride in the appearance of their neighborhood, had an ironic set - to with a Department of Sanitation worker this week.

He turned on the water. The children enthusiastically clamored to cool off under the hydrant's spray and for this innocent pleasure were cursed by the man in language many adults never hear.

Like many another city agency, the Department of Sanitation is not meeting its responsibilities in colored neighborhoods. Its trash collection schedules are less thorough and other services desultory.

Most colored Baltimoreans, as evidenced by the thousands of workers who join the AFRO Clean Block campaign each summer, are vitally interested in improving and maintaining their neighborhoods.

These citizens volunteer often to do street cleaning chores rightfully expected of the Department of Sanitation.

Abuse of innocent children does not reflect credit on the Department of Sanitation.

The city has every obligation to help citizens maintain clean blocks and every obligation to see that its employees use clean language.

Something New—A Hazard

Those who love summertime because it gives them a chance to use the small grill for cooking have something to worry about.

That is if ey rely on newspapers as the main source of fuel.

City Health Commissioner Robert Farber warned this week that there are 'possible health hazards' because fumes from ink and other chemicals in newspaper might contaminate the food.

These who have been using newspaper will be grateful to Dr. Farber for this warning, but we can't help but feel there is always something new to take the joy out of life.

Total Dedication

The Rev. Donald Michael Clark was ordained to the Catholic priesthood at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Detroit on June 6.

Father Fernand Dautruche, C.S.R., citizen of Haiti, was ordained a priest for the Redemptorist Congregation on June 21 by His Eminence, Francis Cardinal Spellman.

The annual report of the Commission for Catholic Missions Among Colored People and Indians shows 775 priests active in the United States. 120,360 Catholic converts were reported last year, of whom one in every ten is colored. The increase last year was 700.

As the number of priests assigned to colored missions is increased, so is the number of converts.

The Divine Word Messenger, published in Los Angeles, Calif., reports that equally effective work can be done by white or colored priests and the work is done best by those of any race who give it total dedication.

The Answer Is The Vote

When the last hurrah had been said at the Republican Convention last week, when the last dull speech had droned to a close, when the banners had been discarded in piles of rubble, many delegates left San Francisco uneasy of heart.

The Republicans had nominated a man who stood against many of the basic policies and principles of the party, a man who in a complex world provided simple answers, that were really no answers at all.

The civil rights issue was a key point in their disquiet, but there were also the question of the nuclear testing, the United Nations, Social Security, medicare and other vital issues to impinge on the conscience of the delegates.

It was not simply a question of what was best for the Republican Party, but a question of what was best for the nation — and by a logical extension, what was best for humanity itself.

A number of Republicans have searched their souls since then, and reached the decision that they cannot support Mr. Goldwater and will not campaign for him during the forthcoming election.

Simply being against Mr. Goldwater is, however, not going to be enough.

This was the mistake made in San Francisco. People were against Goldwater, but there was a tendency to underestimate his chances, and by the time a correct exaltation had been made of the man's strength, a point of no return had been reached.

The nation can not afford to underestimate the Goldwater strength again, nor can any one afford the luxury of sitting on the sidelines during this election.

The only way to prevent a takeover by the reactionaries and the racists who cling to Goldwater's coattail is through the ballot box.

An all out registration campaign should be launched in every part of our nation, coupled with an extensive voter education drive.

America has the choice of moving ahead, or turning her back on the future. The answer to Goldwater lies in the vote.

Summer band concerts

Stay at home vacationers have a real treat right at their doorstep if they attend the concerts sponsored by the City's Bureau of Music.

Elsewhere in this newspaper, Music Critic, Mrs. Adah K. Jenkins, describes the recent performances of the Municipal Concert bands directed by Gerald Eyth and Weldon Irvine.

J. I. Gray, music bureau superintendent, has arranged these Sunday band concerts in the park. They are free and open to the public.

Audience participation is provided in the community sings.

An hour of good music in a cool setting is both educational and relaxing, just the thing to provide relief from the summer heat and tensions of the day.

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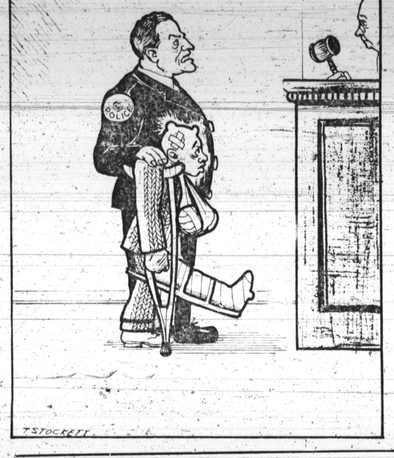
Necessary Force



What Our Readers Say

On Extremism

Readers are invited to submit letters for publication. All letters must be signed but signature will be omitted if requested. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length. Address them to "Our Readers Say," Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, 628 N. Eutaw St.

Dear AFRO:

An extremist, Webster says, is "A person who goes to extremes."

I think that I know what is confusing about extremism. What is being overlooked is the fact that there are two kinds of extremists. One works in harmony with the spirit of God, and the other works in disharmony with God itself.

Goldwater, depending on himself, depending on what he thinks, believes and desires, is going to great lengths. He may be considered later by many to be very great, but the question is, is he great and right, in the sight of God?

I think that Gov. Rockefeller and many others could be thinking that the spirit of God is not really leading Sen. Goldwater. Concerning the points of who is right and who is wrong, that is always vital." "All have the freedom of choice, and when we choose, we either stand or fall." Let us not forget that the devil appoints high positions, and tried it with Jesus.

"Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; and saith unto him, all these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me." St. Matthew 4:8-9.

God was speaking about "Civil Rights" when he told Moses to go and tell Pharaoh, "To let my people go."

One could have called Moses an extremist, to go and tell a king what to do, but he was backed by the spirit.

"And the Lord said unto Moses, see I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet." Exodus 7:1.

One could have called Pharaoh an extremist considering how he paired to great lengths upholding "State's Rights". He went to the extreme, at the end.

I believe that God, through these modern times is crying out through President Johnson and many others, "Let my people go (Civil Rights)," and the hardened hearts of Goldwater, Wallace, and many others are crying out, No, (State Rights). "And Pharaoh hardened his heart at this time also, neither would he let the people go." Exodus 8:32.

When Eve was in the garden was she an extremist? She had advanced views. Did she sin? It all adds up to me, how drastic can a person be for wrong, and what advocates extreme measures for the right? All of us are extremists at times, and we need the true spirit to guide us.

REV. G. S. MCGUIRE

Law A Force?

Dear AFRO:

After shearing the various opinions of people all over the city I find that there is truth in what they say. Mr. Petty and Mr. Leopold were executed by the forces of superiority (or so they think).

Can the police of this city make the citizens once again gain respect for them with these methods that have been known fluently in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and other points south?

Reading of these atrocities occurring elsewhere is definitely shocking —yet it fills one with overwhelming shame when it occurs in your own community.

It is an astonishing revelation to hear of various officers partaking of various liquors during the hours they are on duty, and there should be a committee to screen the actions of the force more thoroughly.

Perhaps eventually we can truly say and use the term sincerely. "The city's finest."

Most of the people say when you're afraid you'll get killed without the slightest hitch and provocation, it's compulsory to fight back to win to survive, for all living creatures want to live as long as possible.

I sincerely hope, I pray that it won't come to pass but it's inevitable that there will be another era as the roaring 20's, or similar, if steps aren't taken to curb the violence of the officers of law and order.

"Or is this phrase (law and order) definitely a farce?

DOUGLASS HARRIS

Saw Officer Drink

Dear AFRO:

The NAACP charge that a couple of Baltimore patrolmen were under the influence of alcohol while performing their duties may, or may not be true. However, a couple of months ago I saw a policeman walk into a bar and drink a beer just as if he were a regular patron.

The above statement does not indict the two patrolmen charged nor does it condemn other patrolmen, but it does point out a lack of self discipline in the police department.

LYLE G. ROBERTS JR.

The Melting Pot

Dear AFRO:

This land is supposed to be a melting pot.

Yet, for some 400 years colored persons have been told to take pot luck, while terrorists have been taking pot shots at them.

Colored citizens are beginning to demand that the Power Structure either fit the democratic image or get off the pot.

The pot is just about ready to boil over.

If things don't change soon, the Power Structure will find itself without a pot to pitch its promises in.

A. ROBERT KAUFMAN

Officer Praised

Dear AFRO:

At the Western Police district officer Howard Corbin is assigned, his post of duty happens to be in the neighborhood in which he was born and reared.

Most everyone knows and respects him for his diligence, watchfulness and behavior at all times.

A real dependable civil servant, he has what is commonly called a 6th sense. That is, when a felony is committed on his post, invariably he apprehends the culpit.

Because of his outstanding devotion to duty and upon the recommendations of his superior officer, Captain Wade Poole, he was named the the 2nd officer of the year.

Officer Corbin now patrols the district in a car, with a fellow officer. He warrants the assistance and corporation of all Western district citizens.

Oh! That we had many more of his caliber.

REUBEN THOMAS

Pin-Point

Illness In The 'Dark Corner'

By GEORGE W. COLLINS

Complacency, Webster tells us, is "Self - satisfaction accompanied by unawareness of danger or deficiencies."

The definition is reproduced here not for the sake of improving or expanding one's vocabulary, but to underscore a harsh fact of life.

It is simply this:

The dark segment of the approximately one million souls that dwell in our fair city is slowly, but surely, choking to death on complacency.

Tragically, by the very nature of the disease itself, this segment — which comprises nearly 40 percent of the total population —doesn't know it.

Worse still, if it does, it doesn't care.

This charge, hurled in what "sisters and brothers" have come to know as 'polite society,' is certain to draw vociferous and sustained dissent.

Dissent notwithstanding, it is the conviction here that with the exception of a tragically small minority of this city's dark minority, by and large the trials, tribulations, life and death of black men, women, and children throughout the land are matters of little or no concern.

Doubtlessly, scholars of human behavior have what is accepted as logical explanations for this. However, when it is remembered that the majority of modern and ancient interpretators of logic have never been known —and will never know — what it is to be born, live and die as a black American, their explanations are viewed here under a cloud of suspicion.

"You can never know what it's like to be colored unless you are colored," it has been accurately said.

To date we haven't seen, heard, or read anything that causes us to question this truism.

It is with a profound sense of gratitude that we acknowledge the valuable contributions made by men, women and children of all races to the black man's struggle for human dignity.

However, there are times when the victim of oppression must stand in the forefront of the battle against his oppressor and lead —rather than follow —the march to total triumph.

It is not too much to expect that others similarly affected will take their place beside him and do battle against a mutual enemy, inviting and welcoming any assistance from sympathetic allies.

In Baltimore it doesn't work that way. The majority of citizens of color, it appears, are afflicted with the creeping disease of complacency.

To illustrate:

Wednesday night a stout, friendly lady, who until two years ago was a modern slave on a Mississippi plantation, came to town.

It was one of several East Coast appearances she is making in an effort to shed some light on the forces of darkness that roam that "Land of Headless Bodies" bringing misery and death to anyone who dares to lift the yoke of slavery.

Mrs. Fannie L. Hamer gave a shocking, graphic and bloodcurdling personal account of life in Mississippi. She told of what it's like to live in a state where treachery and murder is the rule.

Yet the will to be free is alive and incidents of raw courage, steel determination and supreme sacrifice are everyday occurrences.

"We have nothing to lose but our lives — and we are willing to lose them in the cause of freedom," she said.

To put it briefly, Mrs. Hamer had a lot to say.

What causes us to hang our head in shame is the fact the only 32 persons — including two reporters — bothered to hear it.

It will be with more than passing interest that we will study the tan faces at future picnics, cook - outs, "three - for' - one nights" at night-clubs, Oriole and Colt games, crab feasts, "high society functions", and those closed gatherings in cozy and plush club cellars.

While listening to Mrs. Hamer in the basement of Metropolitan Methodist Church on a pleasant summer night, thoughts of other times when black Baltimoreans were expected to stand up and be counted raced through our minds.

It was a feeling of pain to recall that then too that dreaded malady of complacency had already set in.

There is an abundance of evidence. Postman William L. Moore, carrying a message in behalf of humanity, was shot down on an Alabama road. People who cared held a memorial service at Unitarian Church here. The weather was perfect. The crowd was pitiful.

Racial madness snuffed out the lives of four innocent children in Alabama while they were attending Sunday School.

A memorial service was held. The crowd was pathetic.

An assassin's bullet cut down Medgar Evers in segregation - infested Mississippi. A memorial service was held in Baltimore. Again the majority of Baltimore's 300,000 - plus citizens of color stayed away.

A band of determined citizens of both races decided that a "March For Baltimore" would crystelize and bring early remedies for some of the evils that afflict the city's complacent dark corner.

Again most of us had other things to do.

In the space of one week — seven days —two black men met violent deaths at the hands of police.

Memorial services were held — we didn't bother.

Of course there were Riverside, Northwood, Gwynn Oak, George C. Wallace, and as a whole we didn't disturb our normal routines.

There are and have been pleas, cries, cajolery, and outright begging for us to become registered and vote. In the main, we ignore them.

An incredible amount of time and money are spent on carrying us to the election office and the polls, still to a disgusting degree, we just can't seem to tear ourselves away from the "good" life and become involved.

America, Asia, Africa, and other areas of the world are flaming infernos and the cause of the black man is the principal fuel but the dark corner, of Baltimore, for the most part, remains aloof.

What a deadly disease complacency is!

Only In America

Handling Jordanian World's Fair Mural

By HARRY GOLDEN

I do not see how Robert Moses could have done it any other way. He had to deny requests to picket the Jordanian pavilion at the New York World's Fair.

The controversy concerns a mural in the Arab exhibit in which the Jordanians use space at the New York World's Fair for propaganda purposes in their declared hope to wipe out Israel and all its inhabitants.

If they want to indulge themselves in this bad taste, let them. The visitors to the Fair are not fools. I would hesitate to use pickets which only advertise the exhibit and bring more people to view the silly mural.

I BELIEVE the wise course now is for the American-Israeli pavilion to issue a pamphlet to all visitors urging them to see the Jordanian-bad-taste mural.

In this pamphlet the Israelis ought to reproduce the authenticated radio broadcasts of the Arab leaders in 1948 in which they urged the Arabs of Palestine to flee Israel temporarily, to get out of the line of fire, at least until the Israelis were pushed into the Mediterranean.

I would also publish the facts that the Arabs, who did not heed this urgent threat, live in peace and security in Israel in fast three Arabs are members of the Israeli Parliament.

I would also print in this pamphlet several basic facts of Middle East life; for instance Israel is the only country in the Middle East in which there are such luxuries as a "former" Prime - Minister, a "former" President, and a "former" Chief of Staff.

In the Arab countries, all the "formers" have either been killed off or had succeeded in escaping to Switzerland.

I WOULD also publish a photo of Khrushchev and Nasser pinning medals on each other and reproduce the Jordanian law which calls for cutting off the right hand of convicted petty thieves, and after documenting that slavery still exists —by law —in Jordan, I'd leave this little old pavilion alone — unpicketed.

And in passing I would add that Israel came into being because of a vote of the United Nations, based on the Balfour Declaration, the San Remo Conference (to which the Arabs were signatories), the Anglo-American Commission, four resolutions of the United States Senate, and the prophecy in the Book of Ezekiel, that God will restore Israel to the Jewish people, and "cause the cities to be inhabited, and the land that was desolate to become like the Garden of Eden."

SHAKESPEARE ON THE BEATLES

"It offends me to the soul to hear a robustious periwig-pated fellow tear a passion to tatters, to very rags, to split the ears of the groundlings, who for the most part are capable of nothing but inexplicable dumb shows and noise. I would have such a fellow whipped." —From Hamlet.

AFRO Credo

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God, and in the present generation. It must always ask itself—

Whether it has kept the faith with the common people;

Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved and their future assured;

Whether it is fighting to get rid of slums to provide jobs for everybody;

Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and condemn injustices, race prejudice or compromise.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR., 1920

OPINIONS AND COMMENTS

People, places and things

White House Note:—President Johnson honored Prime Minister Holyoake of New Zealand at a luncheon Monday in the State Dining Room.

The Prime Minister jokingly reminded the President he had just been elected to his 2nd term of office, and wished Mr. Johnson luck in his forth coming campaign.

He stated further that free men all over the world look to America for inspiration.

Among the 100 guests were Victor Ashe, the Norfolk attorney, and John H. Murphy III, president, AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers.

• • •

More White House guests:

Dr. and Mrs. Henry Welcome (She's State Senator Verda Welcome), were among White House guests on Wednesday.

President Johnson hosted the Malaysian ambassador.

Other Baltimoreans there: Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Hoffberger (he's National Boh exec.)

• • •

That lovely dining Thursday at La Ronde, the revolving rooftop Holiday Inn restaurant, was Mrs. Evelyn Glore, St. Louis teacher. She and son, Gregory are visiting here and in D.C.

In her party: Mrs. Margaret Hythe and Mrs. Yvette Murphy.

At another table, spied Mrs. Flossie Wright, a good, good neighbor who always has a pleasant smile, doesn't she?

• • •

Visitors: Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Ward (Jeanette), and son, Steven, Marion, Indiana, are visiting her sister and brother - in - law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith of Rosedale St.

• • •

Charlotte, N. C. visitors hereabouts — Mr. and Mrs. Dan Cunningham (Gwen), both school executives.

They are at the Hilton Rd. home of her father and brother, the Rev. Mr. Davidson and Dr. James Davidson.

• • •

California visitors here: Mrs. Zelda Webb Anderson and two daughters, and her father, Luke Webb. They're former Baltimoreans who call Los Angeles home.

• • •

Former Baltimoreans here from their home in Cincinnati — Mrs. Marcia Chapman Mills, and her children, Marc, 3; and Kelly Marie, 2.

They guested with Mrs. Mills' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Chapman (Mattie).

Daddy, Dr. Damon Mills, is a resident in radiology at Cincinnati General Hospital.

• • •

To Virgin Islands: Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Traynham had their Wheeler Ave. home blessed last Sunday by Father Robert Powell, associate rector of St. James P. E. Church.

Their neighbors, Mrs. Mildred Murphy, and her son, Hartshorn, and the Traynham's minister-son, also an Episcopal priest, were present for the blessing and dinner which followed.

Father Traynham is now in the Virgin Islands visiting Bishop Cedric E. Mills, formerly St. James pastor.

• • •

Heaftwarming moment: On Sunday afternoon at the YMCA's Camp Mohawk a small youngster walked up to Dr. Louis E. Harmon, gave him a big hug and whispered, 'Thank you for sending me to camp. Don't forget to tell my mother I'm having a good time."

This writer was there and so can testify that the physician had a grateful tear in his eye.

Dr. Harmon, has headed the Camp Scholarship program for over a decade.

This year, $1,600 he raised is giving deserving youngsters an opportunity to attend camp and enjoy the experience of group living in the great outdoors.

Perhaps the happiest youngster at Mohawk last week was ten-year-old Johnny Brown.

Reason: His mom and dad and sister were there to see him.

They arrived as the Saturday dinner hour songs were in progress and his dad was invited to lead a song.

Johnny's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Richards (Roxie). He is the well known WCBM disc jockey, and a singer in his own right. You'd be proud too to have your buddies see your dad lead the songs.

Cuff note: Johns Hopkins Hospital, long on an Orleans exchange, has a new phone number—955-5000.

If YOU Ask ME

By BETTYE M. MOSS

God's blessings on them

Thinking of you cards to the family of Mrs. Annie E. S. Wells, 2836 Rayner Ave. She was 78 when she died last Wednesday.

Many knew her as an ardent and faithful worker in her church (Ebenezer AME); and her community.

We knew her best for her devotion to the AFRO Clean Block campaign, now in its 30th year.

She was one of the first adult volunteers to respond to the call of the late Miss Frances L. Murphy, Clean Block founder.

• • •

Miss Annie's services were always given willingly, and with a smile.

She endeared herself to her neighbors and to hundreds of children. She will long be remembered with fondness and appreciation.

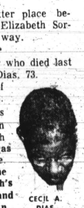
Baltimore is a better place because friendly Annie Elizabeth Sorrell Wells passed this way.

• • •

Good, good neighbor who died last month was Cecil A. Dias, 73.

Fellow members of St. James P.E. Church knew him as the quiet gentleman who joined the church in 1924, when it was located on Park Ave.

For many years, he served as the church's Boy Scout master and as a vestryman and churchgoers in Bowisthetic greeting


CECIL A. DIAS

Every flower brings a wish. The warmest and sincerest And every leaf a thought— That a greeting ever brought; So may they join together Because your birthday's here, And help to make this day the best You've had in many a year!

Belated: Should have had birthday cards in the mail on July 23 for Roger F. Evans, 2929 Winchester St. He's the son of Mrs. Frances T. Evans, the police clerk.

W. Douglas Johnson, the retired school counselor, was 86 on July 20.

Send them congratulations

Hellos will reach him at 2316 Montebello Terr.

• • •

More July birthdays: On the 24th, Mrs. Ted Phifer (Etta), wife of the physician, 4717 Forest Park Ave., and Mrs. Ella Hughes, the nurse, 2924 Hillsdale Rd. the 26th, Mrs. Sarah Newton, the teacher, 2517 Harlem Ave.; and Randolph Tate, 5117 Kenilworth.

On the 27th, candles for Mrs. Ruby Reid, the teacher, 3127 Gwynns Falls Pkwy.; the 28th, Dr. Saul Purdue, Carver High principal, 2410 College Ave.; and Dr. Delores Hunt, the school principal, 100 Cherry Lane, Glen Burnie.

• • •

More July candles:—On the 29th, Elwood Goins, 4826 Gilray Drive; and Mrs. Frances Brown, 3509 Dennlyn Rd.

July 30: Alonzo Lancaster, 2307 Ivy Ave., Miss Juanita Miller, 3606 Fernhill Ave., Rufus Washington, 2320 Allendale Rd.; and Mrs. Vivian Burnett, 2502 Riggs Ave.

• • •

Wedding anniversaries: Best wishes by July 25 to Mr. and Mrs. T. Shelton Coles (Marjorie); by the 27th to the Rudolph Wheelers (Doris); July 28, Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Monroe (Bernice).

PEOPLE, PLACES, THINGS

About this and that

Walter Dean Jr., the AFRO reporter turned government employee, is winning his battle with illness.

He was released this week from University Hospital, where he has been confined for two weeks.

Best wishes to him at 2309 Arunah Ave.

• • •

Out of the hospital and looking fit as a fiddle is Dr. Henry (Stud) Greene, the D. C. physician.

He was among Sunday guests when the Harold Jennifers entertained the Guardsmen and their families at their Highland Beach home.

'Stud' as intimates call him, and his wife, are planning to attend the Kappa Fraternity convention in Los Angeles, and then go on to Hawaii before the summer is over.

• • •

Another good neighbor who is looking the picture of health is Miss Charlotte E. Williams, 2908 Parkwood Ave.

Remember she has been ailing for two years since that auto accident.

Today, she is planning to assume a new job—in the fall—librarian at Coppin State Teachers' College.

• • •

Sunshine to Edward Williams, the Bragg school principal, who entered St. Agnes Hospital yesterday.

• • •

The Albert Moffats (Delores), named their firstborn Stephen. The six - pounder arrived Saturday at University Hospital.

Mainstream

The Riots

By RALPH MATTHEWS, JR.

The Mayor of Baltimore is confident that no riots such as now trouble Harlem will happen here.

I agree with him, not because Baltimore is a better place, but because fewer colored people here understand the role of big - city police as well as the black folk of Harlem.

Baltimore is spread out, a wide city, and Harlem - like all of Manhattan is compressed. Living space goes up into the air in New York. The streets are narrow.

In Baltimore the neighborhoods flow horizontally. This distinction is important —it means that in New York the streets and sidewalks become the arenas of life, the stages on which much of life is acted out.

In Harlem, you do not have to go behind closed doors to get the community's secrets.

It's all laid out for you the minute you come out of the subway entrance at 125th and Lenox or Amsterdam. Harlem is immediately apparent. After dark, if you come off the A-Train from downtown, you may know that at any subway stop above 116th Street you are going to see the following:

1. Drug addicts scratching and nodding on the subway stairs.

2. Prostitutes waiting for customers just outside the subway entrances.

3. Thieves openly selling clothing, foodstuffs, appliances on the sidewalks.

• • •

AND LAST and most importantly, while all this activity is humming and visible and clear even to a square from deep in Kansas, along with the hustlers and hopheads, you are going to see a policeman.

Understand this for it is important to understanding what the people of Harlem are really angry about.

You are going to see all the raw ghetto unfold the minute you step into Harlem and standing there as eyewitness to this self and mass degradation are the cops.

Being a writer, it was my inclination and need to know the people on Harlem's streets and so I have stood chatting with marijuana smokers who literally blew reefer smoke in the noses of the white cops watching us.

My pot - smoker acquaintance said of the cops, "Man, they're not worrying about me getting high, they are only worried about me getting so high I forget who I am and head for downtown to get Whitey."

• • •

WHITEY IS the Harlem term for white people and they say it in a way that conveys extreme contempt.

I have stood talking with seasoned prostitutes, again with the white officer on corner duty, and in the midst of our conversation, watched as the girl waved her handbag toward a passing car.

"Be right there, sweetie," the hustler would say to a customer in the car and after this open solicitation, again with a policeman watching and not caring would say "the man (law officers) don't care about me hustling uptown. They just don't want me going downtown to make any money. Downtown is for ofays."

Curiously enough, the only policeman the people of Harlem had any regard for were the few colored cops stationed there.

"Man," a Harlemite once told me, "A colored cop is tougher than any ofay roller. The main reason is being colored themselves they know every trick we pull up here."

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I SOON got the idea that any real law enforcement going on in Harlem was the work of colored policemen who saw what open vice and crime could do to a people.

What they saw made some colored cops meaner and more vicious than any of their white counterparts but they had the grudging respect of Harlem because they bore down hard.

Most of us would rather follow the law. In Harlem, a basic illness is that the police are not so much interested in law and order as in controlling colored people.

When my reefer - smoking sidewalk companion said the white cops were not interested in his possession and [illegible] with the possibility that he might suddenly rise up in revolt against the white world outside Harlem, he summed up what everyone else I talked to in Harlem about the police said in one form of another.

The role of the police force in Harlem is in all other American cities with large black populations is one of social control rather than law enforcement.

It is as simply as I can and this applies to Baltimore also: police in the ghetto are there to keep the blacks from getting too restless.

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THE FUNCTION of big - city police has little to do with law enforcement or prevention (ghettos have the highest crime rates) it has much to do with keeping blacks in line.

This goes back to some innate and primordial fear in the American white for his former slaves.

For emphasis, I am going to repeat: the big - city police force has an unofficial but clearly apparent function, the task of keeping colored people from massing for any type of

(Continued on Page 6)

Political Notebook

GOP-Demo Unity

By MAX JOHNSON

There is in the advanced stage of development here a unity of forces move among colored Republicans and colored Democrats — for one phase of the November election.

Nobody is saying anything out loud yet — but the thing is in the making.

Back of it all is the GOP Presidential nomination of Arizona's Barry Goldwater — the man who doesn't want the nation's new civil rights law, social security and unemployment benefits, among other things.

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THIS UNITY move may produce some eyebrow - raising, but the reasoning back of it is quite simple.

Colored citizens can't afford any laxity in efforts to block the very threatening election of Senator Goldwater to the Presidency.

"This will be more than just an election," one veteran political leader said after the GOP convention. "It will be a crusade to maintain just opportunities for the colored man's advancement."

In this realm of thinking—unity of the colored Republicans with colored Democrats in fighting the Goldwater Presidential boom becomes a necessity.

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FACED SQUARELY is the blunt fact that the better the organized efforts — the better the fight.

These Republicans will be contending they can't afford the luxury of just not supporting Goldwater—and letting it go at that.

Their's is the realization that to aid the desired defeat of Senator Goldwater in November—their work on behalf of President Johnson is necessary.

This unity of colored Republicans with colored Democrats here affects only the Presidential campaign.

They will, of course, campaign strenuously for the re-election of their own Senator Beall —and their slate of GOP congressional candidates.

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THERE IS not, as misleadingly publicized a few days ago, a general bolting of the Republican Party—and such isn't anticipated.

Actually—these Republicans are bent on recruiting a higher percentage of new members among persons registering in the current campaign.

The Goldwater nomination makes their efforts decidedly more difficult.

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SO—the extent of the purpose of this Republican-Democrat unity of forces move is only to aid in blocking the Goldwater bid for offices in the White House.

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HINT OF this possible action came, actually at the GOP convention last week in San Francisco — immediately following the Goldwater nomination.

A 24 plank came in a formal protest signed by the colored members of the Maryland delegation.

Remember this last paragraph of that statement disavowing the Goldwater nomination?

"And finally let it be known that we shall work against the election of Mr. Goldwater for President of the United States, as he worked against us in the 1964 civil rights law."

Gus Knox, city GOP secretary, and Marshall Jones, Park Board member, two delegates, led four alternates of their race in signing that document.

It brought them national attention.

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THIS IS reminiscent of the primary campaign in Maryland of Alabama's earthy-talking Gov. Wallace.

There was some of this same Republican-Democrat unity in stirring their vote against him.

Though primacy laws prevented Republicans from crossing party lines to vote against the Democratic Wallace — they joined forces with colored Democrats to urge votes against him.

And it paid off in aiding his defeat.

In this coming general election—Democrats, Republicans and those independents not affiliated with either party will face the same ballot.

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THIS, OF COURSE, makes more potent the pending Republican-Democratic unity of forces fighting against Senator Goldwater.

All voters who want to can help in blocking his election — by voting for President Johnson, and urging others to do the same.

There is one last comment I should like to pass on this Republican - Democratic unity move against Mr. Goldwater's Presidential hopes.

It's my opinion colored citizens should bear in mind in matters affecting the race — we were colored before we became doctors, lawyers, teachers, Democrats or Republicans.

And when unity of effort is needed for racial advancement or to protect such advancement, as in the Goldwater case — party affiliation should become secondary.

And there should be no hesitancy in proudly saying so publicly.

This very purposeful Republican - Democratic unity move is an excellent one.

Labor - Business

Policy, Practice

By STERLING A. PAIGE

A few weeks ago, when the National Labor Relations Board rendered a decision which found an independent union in Houston guilty of discriminatory practices, the trade union movement poked out its chest and crowed. The crowing was because the union involved was an independent one.

In the wake of the appearance of a cartoon in a local paper, the chest deflated, the crowing ceased, and once again the old fighting stance was effected amid cries of "foul".

Baltimore labor leaders immediately resumed the old song about discrimination not being the policy of trade unions, neither locally nor on a national level.

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WE AGREE that unions have made material progress in the area of discrimination within the past few years, however there is much room for improvement ahead.

We do not accept the theory of policy - we do recognize the actuality of practices. To talk to us of policy in the face of rank discriminatory practices is an insult to the intelligence of citizens of color.

The Baltimore Building Trades Council represents 28 construction unions. Two of these unions have apprenticeship training programs that accept colored. The other 26 — that's practice.

On recently, the asbestos workers went out on strike. When the 250 members of the all - white union went out, picket lines were established around the job sites struck against —and some 200 colored members of the construction laborers' Local 194 were out of work in support of a union that has a record of all-white membership. That's PRACTICE.

After giving us the "policy" bit, Charles Muntain, head of the Building Trades Council, went on to say, "The fact is — more positive action must be taken by the employers, not the unions".

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POWERFUL UNIONS can negotiate and determine wages, job conditions, the number of men required to constitute a gang or crew, over - time pay, working hours, coffee breaks, pension plans, health and welfare, and almost dictate the policies of management.

YET, in the area of colored workers, the EMPLOYERS must take positive action. All of a sudden, the unions have no power to act. That's practice.

Trade unions, which can keep a man from working unless he joins the union, which can keep him off the job unless he pays his dues, can impose fines on members for violation of union rule, can even expel and "forever debar from membership" for serious breaches of rules, and assess members for almost any good reason, can regulate his working hours and conditions and determine his wages —

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THESE UNIONS find themselves unable to say "We will accept for membership, and represent fully, and equally provide all of our advantages to ALL QUALIFIED PERSONS, regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin".

Again I say, we are interested in the PRACTICE, not the policy.

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TROY BRAILEY'S appointment to the Advisory Committee of the Baltimore Apprenticeship Information Center is in the bag, this column has learned.

Official announcement will come soon from the Governor's office.

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A SETTLING OF the Retail Clerks' strike this week leaves Al Akman, secretary - treasurer of Local 692 "very happy". Agreement gives wage increases to both part and full-time clerks.

First stage of the increase is retroactive to Jan. 26, with the second stage going into effect July 26, or this coming Monday.

As of Monday part - time employees will receive an approximate $8 increase while full - time workers will receive $9 more.

Package calls for 30 - cent an hour increase over the span of the 3-year contract, with the last stage of the increase falling into effect Jan. 2, 1966.

BUSINESS BLITZKRIG

North Carolina Mutual's new building in the 2300 Block Reisterstown Rd. scheduled for opening late in August.

New location will serve for the W. Baltimore District, replacing the Pennsylvania Ave. office which will be shuttered. Increased services to policy - holders will be marked by an increase in the staff. Staff will be beefed up to 40.

Agents ranks will be increased by about 30 per cent. Brightening the employment opportunities picture is N. C. Mutual's invitation to salesmen interested in the insurance field who want to earn incomes of $5000 a year or more.

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THE OUTGROWTH of an idea, a little money, plus loads of ambition and work, the Storyville Record Center, 2431 Reisterstown Rd., has now come into its own.

Owner Vernon Richardson announces this week the clinching of a CBS dealership, offering a complete line of Columbia radios, phonos, matched components, and tape recorders. Storyville boasts of a $75,000 yearly gross and a 600-member jazz club. Specialty is jazz records.

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REALTOR James Crockett, of North Ave. has become the first colored member of the Multiple Listing Bureau.

Jim Crockett has been in the real estate field eight years and has been a broker since '59. Multiple Listing Bureau consists of 150 brokers and more than 700 salesmen.

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DEAVER SMITH, of the tea, coffee and spice firm, is now into his 57th year in the business at his Pennsylvania Ave. location. That's sticking. A perfect example of It Can Be Done.

Cambridge boasts of a new and modern $50,000 motel. Owner is Hansel Green, once candidate for the Cambridge City Council.

Running water in all rooms, rooms with baths and air condition, and business suites are some of the advantages of this colored-owned business.