Baltimore Afro-American
A-4 NOVEMBER 20, 1965

"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

Dear Father in Heaven, that honest and cheerful, brave and true, we may be quick and ready to help each other meet the day's work and cares, we pray, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Judge Cullen's Liquor Blunder

Legal technicalities notwithstanding, when Supreme Bench Judge James K. Cullen cleared the way for the location of a liquor store in Cherry Hill, he made a mistake.

From a fine point of law, perhaps the verdict can be considered legal. There are others—and we contend—more vital considerations.

In reversing the Board of Liquor License Commissioners, which denied the license, Judge Cullen committed some grievous oversights.

1. He ignored the will of the majority.
2. He ignored a long tradition based on a community's fight to upgrade itself.
3. He brushed aside the plea of school officials.
4. He acted in the absence of demonstrated need.
5. He brushed aside the rulings of three other judges who in earlier cases upheld denials by the Liquor Board. The other judges were Joseph Sherbow, W. Conwell Smith and E. Paul Mason.

He ignored the importance of indigenous ownership, providng outsiders an opportunity to exploit the people of the community.

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ONE OF the cornerstones of our democracy is the principle of majority rule.

A transcript of the public hearing on the application shows that a petition signed by 3,500 persons opposed to the license was presented as was one signed by 450 to 650 persons favoring it.

Since the inception of the Cherry Hill housing development there have been periodic efforts to locate a liquor store there. All had been denied.

Although Judge Cullen conceded the location is less than the normal 300 feet from the property lines of the Carter Godwin Woodson Elementary School No. 160, he ruled "the school building itself, is in excess of 400 feet from the proposed location."

In absence of a city ordinance setting fourth a required distance of liquor outlets from schools and churches, the jurist relied on Section 47 of Article 2B of the Annotated Code of Maryland as applied in Baltimore County.

(That statute, adopted in 1957, provides that: "In Baltimore County, the board of license commissioners shall not approve any license to sell alcoholic beverages within 300 feet of any school, church or other place of worship . . .")

The statute was later amended to read that the 300 feet was to be measured from the nearest corner of the establishment to the nearest corner of the school or church.

As to need, testimony at the hearing revealed that liquor stores and pharmacies in nearby Brooklyn and Westport operate delivery services to Cherry Hill and autos and transit service further help make alcohol easily accessible to the area.

This arrangement has been sufficient for 20 years, it was emphasized at the hearing.

By her own admission, Mrs. Leah Molofsky, the licensee, "has to spend most of my time with the children."

She says they are eight and 14 years of age and they live at 3917 Emmart Ave., far removed from Cherry Hill.

So does her "advisor," Bernard Molofsky, father-in-law, a clothing manufacturer, who lives at 7121 Park Heights Ave.

Neither according to testimony, will be on the premises.

Among the historical reasons for keeping liquor out of Cherry Hill has been consideration for the vast number of persons who are recipients of public assistance and the predominance of young people under the age of 21, estimated to be 75 per cent of the population.

Further it is a matter of documented evidence that the too easy accessibility of alcohol in such areas carries a corresponding amount of crime, violence and disorders. This was one of the major points of the opponents.

Judge Cullen ignored their pleas. He made a mistake and in so doing, he did the community a disservice.

Cherry Hill will be harmed by this ruling. The people should not stop fighting.

Mello Declares War

Western District commander Dennis P. Mello is to be commended for his declaration of war on young hoodlums in particular and criminals in general.

His aims are quite basic: To make the streets safe for citizens to move about and transact their business secure in the knowledge that their person and property will be protected from the lecherous thieves, yokers, robbers and murderers.

To accomplish this it is necessary that he gets complete cooperation from all citizens, the courts and the Police Department.

The new commander, despite his brief tour of duty, has taken laudable steps in securing this mandatory cooperation by appearing at schools, before business and community organizations and detailing the extent of lawlessness which must be coped with in the district.

The next move is up to every man, woman and child who is directly or indirectly affected by the crime now plaguing the area.

We can ill afford to ignore rampaging bands of youthful hoodlums roaming the streets, plundering homes, leaving violence, terror and grief in their wake.

It is time now for all law-abiding citizens to join hands with the police to bring tough, swift and fair law enforcement to a district which has been tagged — with a degree of justification — with such names as "Hell's Kitchen" and "San Juan Hill."

The Challenge Of 1966

All over the state, even in Washington, D.C., Marylanders are getting together to discuss possible candidates for the statewide elections next year.

This is not unusual.

As yet, we have not heard of any consideration being given to a colored candidate on any major ticket by either party.

This also is not unusual.

But now that one candidate is in the race and Thomas B. Finan, attorney general, has become an unofficially announced hopeful, it is time something was done to correct the latter situation.

We think that Maryland has advanced to the point where the Democrats and Republicans can and should field an integrated ticket for state office in 1966.

The entire world, and certainly the nation, is pressing the matter of erasing color as a criteria for opportunity to serve.

In Maryland, the 1966 platforms will not and cannot say nearly as much as deeds. Action speaks a lot louder than words.

The Democrats in Maryland have an inescapable responsibility to accept a colored candidate in one of the three top positions on the state ticket — governor, attorney general or comptroller.

Most colored voters of the state are Democrats.

For either the Democrats or the Republicans, elections across the nation show that running a colored candidate on the ticket is not a handicap. Thousands of white voters are ready to cast their ballots on the basis of a candidate's qualifications and program, rather than on the criteria of race.

In fact, we think that Maryland, despite the minority rumblings, has progressed to the point where having a colored candidate on the ticket will prove a major asset.

A Great Society depends upon us all working through a true Democratic Society.

There is no better way for Maryland to enhance its own future development and play its rightful role in the national and world picture than by sharing within its own borders the highest responsibilities and honors it may bestow.

Those who aspire to top leadership should show the way.

China And The UN

We are sure our State Department has good grounds for opposing China's entrance to the United Nations. Once again the United Nations has fallen short of the two-thirds majority needed to bring the Chinese in.

However, if it were left to us we would let the bums in.

The United States is way behind China in its contributions to science, history, culture and civilization.

The Chinese are the old ones beside whom we are children.

They have a right to be angry at the shameless exploitations other nations inflicted upon them in the past 100 years.

But a United Nations ought to include everybody.

We don't throw the states of Alabama and Mississippi out of the federal union because they are stinkos. We leave them in and seek to convert them to decency.

We have no criticism of Secretary Rusk and no directions or ultimatum to address to him on this subject. We only say that big, bungling China with 669 million people, should be in the United Nations as soon as we can gracefully change our policy.

Roy Wilkins Off To Europe

Roy Wilkins and Mrs. Wilkins are on a three-week vacation in Europe.

That's good, but it will also be a cold trip. Despite that, the national director of the NAACP should be sent abroad every year.

He should go not only to Europe, but to Asia, Africa, South America and Australia.

There are NAACP's or their equivalent operating all over the world.

They have different names but the same problem, which is to win equal treatment for minorities.

For Secretary Wilkins a trip abroad of this character is like a professional seminar. One new idea that he picks up there and applies here when he returns will more than pay the costs of the entire trip.

What we say about Roy Wilkins' educational trip abroad applies also to heads of most social, religious and business groups. For example, the church which has sent its pastor abroad to see what's going on in the world has a great opportunity to broaden its own understanding and education.

Independence—Rhodesian Style

Our Readers Say: Praise For Tydings

Dear AFRO:

This letter is in response to what I consider a wonderful gesture of Senator Joseph Tydings. I would like the public to know that our Senator is indeed not only a man of words but also of deeds.

On his tour in Vietnam, Senator Tydings met and talked with my son, Leighton B. Evans, 55th MI Det., stationed at present in Na-Trang. Last evening, Nov. 10, a representative from Senator Tydings' office called to inform me that the Senator had met my son and that he was in good spirits.

This has raised my spirits to no end.

This deed, though small to some, has truly made a mother and aunt very, very happy and proud.

Thank you again, Senator Tydings and also many thanks to the representative who called. In the excitement his name was lost to me.

Mrs. SHIRLEY EVANS THOMAS

Gas Reply

Dear AFRO:

It is regrettable that Harman M. Heyn, in his letter of Nov. 13, has chosen an emotional rather than a factual approach to his subject. He is crediting reports of the use of poison gas, when it is evident that tear gas alone has been used.

For Mr. Heyn's information, poison gas is packaged only in artillery shells, tear gas being packaged in hand grenades. To temporarily incapacitate a mass with tear gas is much more humane than to rip his guts out with a bayonet or blow him apart with high explosives. Gas is the most humane form of warfare ever developed.

The Viet Cong have assassinated over 3,000 public officials in South Vietnam, almost the entire civil service, in their efforts to take over the country.

With people like this we cannot compromise. There will be no more Munichs, and the free world will never again back down to aggression. Mr. Heyn should appeal to the Viet Cong to cease their murdering.

HOWARD H. GREEN

Morrison Death

Dear AFRO:

I would like to express the deep sadness I feel over the death of Norman Morrison who burned himself to death in front of the Pentagon building last Tuesday.

I am sure that other students in Baltimore who knew Mr. Morrison feel as I do.

I think it is important for people to ask why Mr. Morrison felt compelled to end his life in the way he did, and where the responsibility for his death lies.

These questions are important because his death has a significance outside of its most immediate causes.

It is to be hoped that once people have an understanding of these dehumanizing elements within our society which combined to bring about the suicide of Mr. Morrison, then they will act to eliminate them as quickly as possible.

Only in this way will similar humanly destructive actions be avoided.

DAVID HARDING
Member, Baltimore Students for a Democratic Society

Church Story Pleases . . .

Dear AFRO:

Just a word of sincere appreciation for the AFRO's visit with us in worship a Sunday ago. Many members have been most enthusiastic in their expressions of gratitude and delight for the very warm praise for our sanctuary renovations and services which appeared in "If You Ask Me," by Mrs. Moss.

C. R. COLEMAN, Minister,
Pa. Ave. AME Zion Church

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 Reader Say," Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, 628 N. Eutaw St.

Pin-Point: Note To Poverty 'Experts': Shut-up

By GEORGE W. COLLINS

The tenant of this corner approaches this week's topic of observation with feelings akin to those of the mythical son-in-law, who witnesses his witch-like mother-in-law drive off the cliff in his new Cadillac.

On the one hand there is the impression that further comment on the local war on poverty is as needed as communism is in Russia.

On the other, there is a compelling urge to go on record as naving HAD IT with the mouthings of self-appointed experts and overnight certified critics who suddenly know all the strengths and weaknesses of the program designed to break the cycle of poverty.

Let it be said now that everybody — particularly the thousands who have not been, and will never be able to break the death-hold of the clutches of poverty — knows there are a lot of wrongs to be corrected before intended benefits of the program filter down to those for whom it was created in the first place.

It is contended here, however, that the current authors of criticisms are not to be regarded as the ones best equipped to correct those wrongs.

The conclusion then is obvious: they should button up their traps until those best suited to do the job have had a chance to do it.

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IN A SENSE, Baltimore's poverty fight is no different from those in other cities to the extent that it made its debut amidst wheeling, dealing, string-pulling, and maneuvering for favored positions.

Added to these natural disadvantages were the crippling handicaps of the personal tug of war between the former unsure and reluctant director and the ill-orientated chairman of the commission.

With no intention of revelling in their current disconnections with the program, it can be safely said that it does have a better chance of succeeding in their absence.

Their wrangling, the resultant confusion and dilly dallying in naming a new director imposed a damaging delay on getting an already complicated, new, and unwieldy project underway.

Further the established community service agencies — which without exception, already bore a major share of the responsibility for the strong foothold poverty has gained here — committed a grievous error in trying to revert overnight to the role of slayer of the monster they helped create.

At the outset, their motives were held in suspect here because it was apparent their sole interest was in preserving their respective status as professional organizations rather than doing something about and for the poor.

Not escaping blame too are the individuals and groups who saw the program as a sure means of latching on to what was misconstrued as a windfall of federal money with neither intent nor desire of rendering needed services in return.

It is an open secret that primarily because of the confusion at the top, many got away with murder.

It can be said with a degree of certainty now, however, that in the event officials of the organizations and individuals involved harbor any illusions that this "gravy train" arrangement is headed anywhere but to a dead-end, they are in for a rude awakening.

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PARREN J. MITCHELL, the new director, who, unlike his predecessor, does have an idea of where he's going and how he's going to get there, has already begun to tighten the noose around the necks of laggard agencies which heretofore have labored under the misconception that the $4 million program was designed to crown them with glitter and gold.

In short the poverty program, under Mr. Mitchell, has gained a new sense of direction.

The least that its army of critics can do is hold its heretofore useless impressions in check until the director and his staff have had a fair chance to determine what is to be done and how it can best be done.

In this connection, the City Council and Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin can give the program vigor and vitality by filling existing vacancies on the commission without further delay.

It is high time too, for the Civil Service Commission to get up off its hands and speed up testing and certification procedures so that the routine question of staffing can be settled once and for all.

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THE POINT here is simply this: The anti-poverty program is the best thing that has ever happened to the poor.

It at least recognizes the fact that they do exist — and this in itself, is an indication of progress.

As to how they can best be helped is a problem not so easily solved, but it must be.

It can — and must be — solved. We believe it will be.

We repeat, however, those who are currently having the most to say as to how it can be, are not the ones to do it.

The best thing they can do for now is shut up!

Political Notebook: Parks Boom Rises

By MAX JOHNSON

What with Maryland's gubernatorial primary a short ten months distant — a speculative look beyond to Baltimore's mayoral elections in 1967 might, at casual glance, seem somewhat farfetched.

Such is far from the general state of things — for a lot of eyes are being cast in that direction.

There will be, also, a distinct relationship between two elections —insofar as city colored voters are concerned.

What is done in the gubernatorial could be a springboard for key advances in the following mayoralty—but more about that later.

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FOR SOME time now — there has been considerable talk in downtown circles of possible candidates.

Some of it has been touching recently on the possibilities of a colored candidate for one of the top city-wide posts — mayor, president of the City Council or comptroller.

Invariably — Councilman Henry G. Parks Jr. (4th D.) is named by somebody.

In the nearly three years he has been in the council — Mr. Parks has made just this kind of impression.

Many veteran politicians see him as a formidable candidate, a possible winner — should he elect to run.

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AT THE moment — they are talking about Mr. Parks as a candidate for the City Council presidency in the 1967 mayoral elections.

There is general agreement among most of such speculators that he would greatly enhance the winning possibilities of the ticket on which he accepted this second spot.

Members of Mr. Parks' race now form 33.5 percent of the city's registered voters — a percentage sure to be vastly increased come the mayoral elections.

In addition — 31.7 percent of his Democratic party registration here are colored citizens.

This percentage, too, is fast increasing.

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SPECULATORS — REMEMBERING also that he led his ticket in the past Council race and has since attracted much city-wide, favorable attention — are quick to envision Mr. Parks polling strong white support.

Couple this with a certain colored bloc vote support — and it's difficult, indeed, not to visualize a winner.

Mayoral tickets, like others, are formed with what are believed to be the most likely candidates a faction can field.

The rising tide of political awareness elsewhere among colored citizens, stronger and wider bids for public office — as evidenced in recent city and state elections outside Maryland — is seen, also, as having a prompting influence here.

So, there's increasing talk of somebody building a bandwagon to the mayor's seat in 1967 — with Mr. Parks on his ticket as candidate for the City Council presidency.

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THE BIG question still unanswered in midst of all this speculation, however, is — Mr. Parks, himself.

He is fully aware of the whole thing.

Yet, he isn't ready to rush happily through the door somebody opens to an otherwise attractive ticket — nor is he inclined to turn his back.

He has mixed feelings on the matter.

There is his obligation to the employees of his expanding Parks Sausage Co. to devote the time necessary to keep the operation blossoming — and customers happy with ample products of their choice.

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ALSO, HE wonders whether he should sacrifice his personal well-being to enter the political arena to the vast extent he feels the council presidency and accompanying post as head of the Board of Estimates would require.

Both require considerable City Hall time — many, many community appearances day and evening, to round out an exacting, full-time job.

Mr. Parks just isn't sure at this point whether he can afford this — or that he even wants it.

It's significant for Parks supporters to note that he is expressing no negative thoughts about being able to win.

Behind speculations of the Parks candidacy however—or that of other candidates for city-wide office in the mayoral campaign stand a wait-see for progress in the shaping gubernatorial.

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THE WINNING of desirable elective posts next year will make top entry in the following mayoral campaign a prime requisite — and with a more favorable climate.

We've been helping to elect white top city officials here for years.

It's high time colored voters started thinking seriously about electing some of their own.

And it's not too soon to start thinking now in terms of Mr. Parks — or some other excellent candidate personalities.

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

Business and Labor: Read, Then Act

By STERLING A. PAIGE

An official release from the Washington office of the U.S. Small Business Administration announces the expectation that applications for and processing of small business loans may be resumed again around Dec. 1.

Despite this would-be cheering news, probing by this column has extracted unofficial but reliable information that leads us to believe there will be no further action on loans until 1966.

Fact is that loan applications in the Louisiana-Texas disaster area now number some 20,000. Clearing of these applications is expected to involve some $160 million in SBA funds.

Further attempts to raise hopes are displayed in another part of the D.C. release which spells out that, despite the drain on funds because of the disaster loans, the granting of business loans throughout the country under the Economic Opportunity Act will not be affected.

Business loans under this act are a part of the anti-poverty program. They will be granted to existing businesses which will use the money to expand and create employment for unemployed people in the poverty class; or, to start new enterprises that will give jobs to people in this category.

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FUNDS FOR these business loans are already available through the Office of Economic Opportunity but don't get your hopes raised.

What they are not clearly explaining is fact that these loans must be processed through the Small Business Development Centers. Unfortunately, these centers have been established in very few areas; actually less than one to each state up to the present time.

Baltimore is not among those few areas in which these centers have been established. Despite approval of funds for the Baltimore center many months ago, the funds have not been released as yet.

Word has it now that funding of the Baltimore Small Business Development Centers, along with numerous others, will be indefinitely withheld pending an appraisal of existing ones.

My advice to business people who have looked forward to government assistance: Write, wire and phone your representatives in Washington. Worry, exhort and needle them.

You are unhappy and concerned about the situation and asking for help is promptly clearing the way for Federal funds for business use. Business improverishment must be halted, not promoted.

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LOUIS V. KOERBER is the newly-appointed vice prexy of Baltimore's oldest paint supply house, Budeke's Inc. The announcement was made this week by Robert N. Gardner, president of the 97-year-old firm.

Koerber holds an engineering degree from Johns Hopkins and is member of Maryland Association of Football Officials.

County asks funds for Head start

Senator Daniel B. Brewster (D-MD.) announced Thursday that the Board of Education of Baltimore County has made application for a Head Start Child Development program. This project will involve approximately 950 children. Brewster estimates the processing will require six weeks.

Coming Events

NOV. 21

At 4 p.m. the Fourth Annual Recital of the Eastside Music Guild presents Miss Gladys Watts, Brooklyn, N. Y. soprano, at the Christ Methodist Church, Chase and Washington Sts.

At 5:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, the Second Annual Kennedy Memorial Mass sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians Baltimore City. At 4:30 p.m. the Cathedral Choir of men and boys present the Resurrection Cantata, Christ Lay in the Bonds of Death, by Bach and the Requiem by Faure.

NOV. 22

Henryton State Hospital, 9:30 A.M. to 3:30 p.m. holds Mentally Retarded Observation Day sponsored by the superintendent and staff, open to the public.

Pick-up Monday for the Wilson Point Clean-Up Campaign, with all residents from Eastern Blvd. South to Wilson Point and from Dark Head Creek to Stansbury Creek urged clean out basements, garages, backyards and place out for collection all hard to handle items.

NOV. 23

In the Auditorium of the Baltimore Museum of Art, a free public lecture on Flemish and contemporary Belgias Art, at 8:15 p.m.

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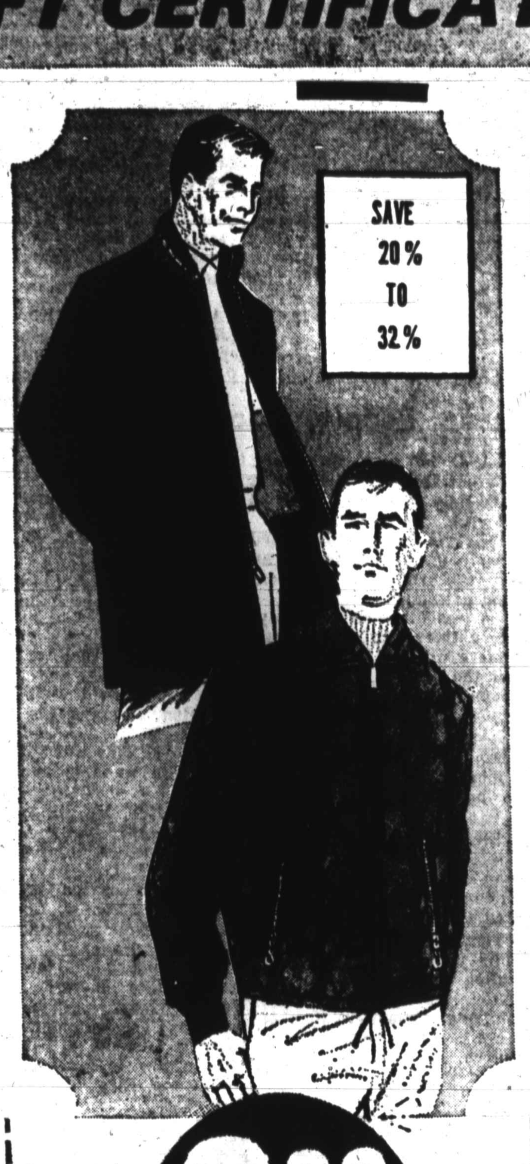

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