I am an American, and as an American, I would speak to America... Frederick Douglass-1817-1895

OPINION

Baltimore Afro-American

FOUNDED Aug. 13, 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1840-1922. Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO-AMERICAN Co., of Baltimore City Inc.

May we let our light so shine that it will illuminate that which is good and beautiful and magnify our Father which is in Heaven.
CARL MURPHY

(1889-1967)
Editor-Publisher (1922-1967)

A—4 APRIL 26, 1975

Back to gas chamber

History will record that in 1975—the year before this nation's bicentennial—on the 22nd day of April to be exact, the 56th governor of Maryland, Marvin Mandel, signed a bill restoring capital punishment.

And although he acknowledged, 'no one signs this legislation with a great deal of relish,' he cited the rising crime rate to justify his action.

The bill mandates that after July 1, a death sentence—in Maryland, the gas chamber—is mandatory for all persons convicted of eight kinds of first degree murder.

These include those convicted of murdering while serving a life sentence, serving a prison term, murdering to escape prison or police custody, murder of kidnap hostages or abducted children, robbery-related murder, mass murders and contract murders.

Reliable statistics prove that a return to the barbaric death penalty has not and will not deter these crimes.

What the bill does is to return to the ancient eye for an eye practice which existed when this country was young.

Today, on the eve of its 200th birthday, the Mandel-sponsored death bill is added evidence that civilized men and women, including the state's chief executive, have not comprehended the real issue. Execution of murderers, rapists, kidnapers et al will not prevent or reduce such crimes.

The U.S. Supreme Court is currently studying another case challenging the death penalty law. It has already ruled (June, 1972), capital punishment unconstitutional as it related to certain cases.

This close decision, (5-4), left the door open for Maryland and other states to try and circumvent the law. Thus, the Mandel bill, like those passed by 20 other state legislatures, is likely to have a final test in the nation's highest court.

AFRO readers who are as interested in law, order and justice as are other citizens will want to watch these proceedings and the application of the new death penalty law very carefully.

They are aware that there is sufficient historical evidence to show that such severe penalties are applied more frequently against those defendants who happen to be poor and black.

Happiness at Morgan

This has been a happy period at Morgan State College, the prestigious northeast Baltimore city institution.

There is promise Governor Mandel will sign the bill enacted by the General Assembly granting the college University status.

Last week, the Board of Trustees of State Colleges selected 48-year-old Dr. Andrew Billingsley as president, a post vacant since last August when Dr. King V. Cheek resigned. He becomes the eighth president in 103 years.

Last Friday, a beloved Morgan leader, (1949-1970) President-emeritus Martin D. Jenkins, returned to the campus for dedication of the $3 million Behavioral Science Center which bears his name.

Those who attended the ceremonies were impressed by the beauty of this unique structure as well as that newest college showplace—the Theodore McKeldin Student Center, which towers over Hillen Rd. It was dedicated this week.

On Saturday, another heartwarming event came at the testimonial honoring professor emeritus G. James Fleming.

When he retired this year he had to his credit a distinguished career of 45 years as educator, journalist and public official and organizer of Morgan State's Institute for Political Education.

His students created a scholarship in his name to perpetuate the work he began.

This icing on the cake is announcement that Morgan will bestow an honorary degree on Dr. Thomas P. Fraser at May commencement. Dr. Fraser has served with distinction as professor and head of the science department and more recently as interim president while successors were sought for Presidents Jenkins and Cheek.

This is, indeed, a joyous time for Morgan State College, soon to be University.



A little about a lot—by madeline w. murphy

Chance to prevail against racism

As rights of the press become more strictured, and at the same time, while blacks are being co-opted, assimilated hatchet men of other blacks, it is a free, independent black press that must hold high the banner of truth in its courageous reporting, with integrity, that will enlighten black people; encourage, support them in their mutual struggle for liberation.

Therefore, it is important that the black press flourish so that the pressing issues confronting black people in these repressing times be solved.

Moreover, it is of great urgency, now more than ever, that blacks rally around the black press to make it more relevant; raise the quality of its reporting; and continue to develop men like Carl Rowan, Sam Yette, Chuck Stone and countless others who have become national spokesmen for the liberation of black people.

—

And in this light, just as the AFRO's voice was courageously raised in the 30's in protest against the repression of the Scottsboro defendants, whose victory came too late, so its voice must be raised today in the case of Rev. Ben Chavis and the Wilmington (N.C.) ten.

For during school desegregation in Wilmington, N.C. in the early 70's, buses were overturned. Children were beaten.

Roving bands of whites, with automatic weapons fired into homes and churches, set fire to the community, while local officials and policemen gleefully looked on.

The minister of Gregory Congregational Church, the UCC church, and leaders in the Wilmington black community called upon the Rev. Mr. Chavis, as field organizer for the United Church of Christ Commission on Racial Justice to come to Wilmington.

As his organizing became sharper, his oppression became worse and he was indicted along with nine others, a year later, charged with arson and conspiracy—damages that had resulted from the Ku Klux Klan attack.

—

The ten were tried before a majority white jury, were found guilty and the Rev. Mr. Chavis was sentenced to 34 years; the eight students, twenty-nine years; the white community worker, 10 years.

The UCC raised $400,000 bail. Now there is an appeal of the case in the N.C. Supreme Court, presided over by a judge who is an acknowledged conservative.

So don't miss the chance you will have to hear Rev. Ben Chavis' story on Wednesday, April 30, at 8 p.m. at Union Baptist Church, 1219 Druid Hill Ave.

While the narrative unfolds the sense of "deja vu," (it's happened before), will hit you, because life was ever thus for black folks.

Speaking along with Ben Chavis will be Congressmen John Conyers and Parren J. Mitchell.

The amazing grace of life as blacks is, however, that we do succeed over towering obstacles. We do survive. But now, we have the opportunity to help the Rev. Mr. Chavis and ourselves to prevail against injustice that pervades everywhere.

Now and then—by g. james fleming

Vietnam and world hunger

I do not have all the facts, but I can not understand how and why one set of Vietnamese—in the North, can outfight, outdiscipline and overrun so decisively another set of Vietnamese—in the South.

During the past several years both sides have depended, for the most part, on outside "advisers," outside arms, and outside financing; each side was allied with a super-power bloc and reflected its ideology—the North with the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, the South with the United States.

Nevertheless, with $150 billion U.S. dollars and 500,000 U.S. men, South Vietnam is only a shadow of what it was four years, ago, or six years ago, or even 15 years ago, with North Vietnam having now captured most of its neighbor's provinces.

—

On the higher levels, the blame is laid on vast corruption in high political and military places in South Vietnam. On lower levels, there also seems to be very poor training for the fighting men.

What did the U.S. military "advisers" and trainers do in South Vietnam?

By the results, it seems that they did little or nothing. Could it be that they looked down on their South Vietnam wards as "untrainable" and found it more convenient to have U.S. men do the fighting?

What is one to make of soldiers who, in retreat, leave behind tanks, planes, missiles and other important weaponry intact, as good as new, ready to be used by the enemy?

—

Isn't it a first lesson of war that "What you can not carry, you destroy?"

Perhaps, the blame is on the South Vietnam "system"—a system which allows enlisted men to buy their way out of military service; which makes necessary the recruitment of 12- and 13-year-olds, and which permits (or permitted) "pleasure as usual" and the hoarding of riches to the few while the masses bore the brunt of the war.

It does not appear that more U.S. dollars, alone, will save South Vietnam, regardless of who heads it.

FEEDING THE HUNGRY—Speaking of the billions spent for maiming and killing in Vietnam has a chilling affect when one also thinks of how much hunger such huge sums could abate.

But, what legislature would vote such money to alleviate starvation in the world?

"Feeding the Hungry" was the theme of a conference held recently, hosted by the Atlanta University Center, Atlanta, Ga.

Speaker after speaker agreed that hunger was as much a political question, as a question of geography, poor agricultural habits or scarcity of water.

Hunger in large areas of the world is what man has done or not done to address himself to the wiles of nature.

In few jurisdictions is the ruling society putting as much into planning to overcome hunger and under-nutrition as it is putting into planning for war and waging war.

The developing nations, under their new leaders, by and large, are following in the footsteps of their former colonial overlords.

Dr. Richard A. Long, director of Atlanta's Center of Afro-American Studies, might have put his finger on the crux of the matter.

He said: "The problem of those who are starving will never be solved because those responsible for solution always operate on full stomachs—their own full stomachs" (For instance, last year's World Hunger Conference was held in Rome, amid all the usual gastronomic frills of diplomatic gatherings).

—

PRESENT NEEDS — In the meantime, all of us should respond to the present appeals to feed the hungry where drought and famine have struck.

In our own country, there should be no pockets of hunger or under-nutrition—not in a nation that can spend billions on a "police action" in faraway Vietnam.

Thoughts of the founder

We get more tears than laughs out of error. — Feb., 1920

J. H. Murphy

82 YEARS AGO—"The interests of the Afro-American population of Baltimore are identical and any faction of the race which fosters strife to gratify its own selfish ambition, should be classed with the enemy."

(From the AFRO-AMERICAN, April, 1893)

Salute of the week

(Persons who appear in this column are suggested by AFRO readers. Send along your suggestion for Salute of Week to Baltimore AFRO, Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203. Be sure to address letters to Salute of Week).

"Undergirding my thinking about matters educational, is a firm belief in the personal worth and dignity of each individual — child, youth and adult. I want each person to have opportunities to discover, to develop, and to use his capacities — his 'gifts,' his talents and to share these with others."

In one memorable quote, Dr. Vernon Vavrina, deputy superintendent, Bureau of Education, now retired, summarized his philosophy of education.

Prior to his retirement last month, (March 1, 1975), this outstanding educational leader gave forty-four years of distinguished service to the Public Schools of Baltimore City.

He joined the staff of the Baltimore Public Schools in 1931 and has served as elementary teacher, junior high school teacher, senior high school teacher, head of the history department at Forest Park High School.

—

He became assistant supervisor and supervisor of history in secondary schools, principal of the Fortview Junior High School (1953), principal of the Roland Park Elementary and Junior High School (1955), director of Junior and Senior High Schools (1956).

In 1960, he was named assistant superintendent in charge of Secondary, Vocational and Adult Education; then moved to associate superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction (1965). On June 21, 1973 was appointed deputy superintendent, Bureau of Education.

From 1966 to 1968, Dr. Vavrina served as president of the Maryland Partners of the Alliance and is at present a member of the Maryland Commission for Latin American Affairs.

—

Dr. Vavrina is a product of the Baltimore City public schools. After graduation from Baltimore City College in 1929, he completed the program of the Maryland State Normal School in Towson.

He earned the bachelor of science (1937) and master of education (1949) degrees from Johns Hopkins University.

He was awarded a Certificate of Advanced Study in Education from the Johns Hopkins University in 1953. In 1958, he received the doctor of philosophy degree at the Catholic University of America. His dissertation is entitled "The History of Public Education in the City of Baltimore, 1829-1956."

In 1944, Dr. Vavrina married the former Miss Gertrude Smearman. The couple has two grown children and one grandson. Both Mrs. Vavrina and their daughter, Gertrude, finished St. Joseph College in Emmitsburg where they were education majors. The daughter, a member of the teaching staff of the Baltimore City School System, took leave in 1966 is currently teaching at Edmondson Senior High School.

Their son, Vernon Jr., is a graduate of Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, Georgetown School of Foreign Service and Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. He is pursuing doctoral studies in political science at Georgetown.

Dr. Vavrina feels that after 44 years the law of inertia will keep him as active as before, even though he is no longer in an office. His plans are many and varied.

He maintains a close relationship with his church, Saint Charles and Boroneo in Pikesville where he serves on the Educational Finance Committee.

Dr. Vavrina added, "I will continue to assist Dr. Roland N. Patterson, superintendent of Public Instruction, in any way I can as an educational consultant. And I may do some teaching later at the university level."

If this very busy retiree has any extra time, he said he plans to use it for reading, research and writing!



DR. VERNON S. VAVRINA
His career spans 44 years.

Washington report—by parren j. mitchell

Martin D. Jenkins, able and strong

(Mr. Mitchell represents Md.'s 7th District in the U.S. House of Representatives. His column this week includes highlights of his April 18 address at the occasion of the dedication of the Martin D. Jenkins Behavioral Sciences Center at Morgan State College.)

Morgan State University is the history of black Americans in microcosm. The struggles of this institution are smaller reflections of the struggles of black people.

For many decades, Morgan fought for its very survival because it was always underfunded. To secure a new building meant months and years of pleading and negotiating.

In past decades, Morgan's physical and academic growth were stifled while other institutions of higher learning exploded with physical growth and secured academic growth because they were sufficiently funded.

—

As is true of Morgan, it is true of the struggles of all black Americans that each small gain has not only required "blood, sweat and tears," but has equally required a fierce unyielding commitment to the forward thrust of a people.

We would not have moved to our present position in this society had it not been for women and men, selfless, self sacrificing, dedicated leaders who gave wholly of themselves.

Morgan University would not be had it not been for the leadership of Martin Jenkins.

Many have contributed to the making of this university. Our legislators, past and present student government leaders, past and present deans and presidents, religious leaders all made contributions, but it was Martin Jenkins who nurtured the seed.

It was Martin who untiringly advocated for university status. It was Martin Jenkins, whom we honor today, who would not let the dream die.

—

Many of us heard time and time again his plea, his demand that Morgan become "a multi-racial, urban oriented university." He stressed the multi-racial concept.

Here, today, let me stress what this man has done and continues to do to strengthen black pride, to foster a strong sense of discipline, and to build a future in which black men and women are finally freed from the shackles of economic deprivations, the chords of psychological uncertainties and the chains which emasculate manhood and womanhood — selfhood.

I remember vividly a convocation at which, Morgan's president, Martin Jenkins, urged us students to maintain a kind of pride which would permit us to bear physical discomfort but not permit us to yield to racism.

The issue was simple. Would black students eat in Northwood's accommodations or would black students carry their food out in paper bags? "You may be hungry" he said, "but forget your hunger, force your mind away from it and remember your pride . . . you are men and women, you should not be subjected to any humiliating experience because of your skin color . . . the paper bag of food is a humiliation."

—

Let me speak now just to the young men and women, the young brothers and sisters who may not know of the courageous men and women of an older generation.

I beg of you not to write off the contributions of older generations.

I beg of you to show the respect for elders which is the key to many cultures of Africa.

You do not know if the older person at whom you laugh, is the same person who was beaten by police as he or she marched and demonstrated for our cause.

You can not know that the older person you dismiss with contempt, is not the same person who spent cruel hours in cruel jails for our cause.

You do not know if those who seek to counsel and are summarily rejected are not the same persons whose family members gave their lives for our cause.

—

John Kennedy said, "The torch has been passed to a new generation." That should not apply to black Americans.

What does apply is, the torch is now shared between a new generation and an older generation of heroines and heroes, legion in number who worked and wept, battled and were beaten, lived and died in a personal and collective war to free humanity.

How well do I remember students and faculty going to Annapolis, 2,000 strong to demand that Morgan get its fair share of state funds.

President Jenkins did not have to go. He could have divorced himself from that action.

He could have condemned it, but he did not do any of these. He was there with us, able and strong, standing with us, maintaining commitment.

"Morgan is here to serve the community, we cannot stand aloof from the people of the community, faculty, students and administrators must become involved." Martin Jenkins preached this and it was good counsel.

—

As I see it today, perhaps the most grave danger to black Americans is the deliberate promotion of classes within our communities.

We can not continue our forward thrust if we are divided, fragmented and pitted astainst each other in terms of classness.

Benet's words were about blacks and whites as he wrote the following lines in his epic poem, "John Brown's Body," but they apply equally to a black on black condition:

That greed of slave driven bark
Full cursed upon the dark
With fetters for the crew
And spices for the few . . .

We here today can not and must not permit a condition to obtain where a few blacks get the spices of this society and the masses of blacks remain fettered by economic, social, physical or psychological deprivation.

—

Morgan has university status, but that status is limited. So our struggle must continue.

The poison associated with the deFunis case will not be contained in any one institution or any one state.

As it spreads it will become increasingly difficult for black students to enter schools of law.

The University of Morgan has the potential and the capability of creating its school of law.

The theme of reverse discrimination has been used to the medical schools in handing down the first "reverse discrimination" decision to be decided against a defendant in medical school.

The Yolo County Superior Court ruled in Bakke vs. The University of California at Davis that granting special admissions to non-white students "denies white persons an equal opportunity for admittance."

—

Should not Morgan State Univrsity be thinking and planning in terms of its medical school?

There are those present who will say these are but idle dreams.

There were those among us in 1950 who said that to think of university status for Morgan was but an idle dream.

We are indeed dreamers, but we are also planners and workers.

We can accomplish any task we want.

We are a strong people.

We are made up of the courage of Malcolm, the mind of Whitney and the soul of Martin.

—

We can and shall, for you Martin Jenkins, and for all of those who believed in the dream, move that dream into reality.

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 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 injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

DECEMBER 24, 1920)

(From the Papers of John H. Murphy Sr., who founded the AFRO-AMERICAN, Aug. 13, 1892).

AFRO readers RAP

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 "AFRO Readers Rap," Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

Dr. Berman's nonsense—by samuel l. banks



DR. EDGAR BERMAN

Dear AFRO:

The recent (i.e., April 18, 1975) statement of Dr. Edgar F. Berman at the dedicatory services for the Martin D. Jenkins Behavior Sciences Center at Morgan State College conveys a chilling and unsettling sense of deja vu and incredulity.

To assert, as Dr. Berman does, that black teachers and administrators are responsible for the "lack of education of black youths," is to be guilty of arrant nonsense.

There are, in my judgment, five areas that require comment germane to Dr. Berman's ex cathedra polemics:

1. Expirical and statistical data will not support the proposition that black teachers and administrators have failed, locally or nationally, to serve the educational needs of black youths.

This astonishing non sequitur is tantamount to ascribing the poverty of 30 million Americans to their own lack of initiative and ambition.

The locus of power as reflected in budget formulation and prioritization and decision-making is not controlled by blacks in Baltimore or across the nation.

The fact of the matter is that black elected officials comprise less than one-half of one per cent of the 500,000 elected officials in our nation.

More specifically, the overwhelming majority of the black teachers and administrators are the products of separate and unequal schools that were, in fact, determined by law until the decade of the 1950's.

2. The "shambles" of public education are not the fault of blacks, who were consigned to shoddy and inferior schools, but of the larger white society that permitted this inequality to develop and continue in our national life.

The capital and fiscal resources necessary to resuscitate and provide quality and excitement in learning for all students must come from the total society.

3. The social and economic pathologies (viz., violent crime, drug use, etc.) that Dr. Berman views as the fault of black teachers and administrators constitute an appalling updating of the Hitlerian "Big Lie."

It was this device that enabled Adolph Hitler to foster and sustain a climate in the 1930s that eventuated in the liquidation of six million Jews.

Dr. Berman, who should know better, has, through his specious reasoning, sought to make black educators and leaders scapegoats.

4. Employment of the Doctrine of Exceptionalism. Blacks across this country, as did the antecedents of Dr. Berman, past and present, fully understand the necessity of being better than average if success is to be achieved in the larger white society.

While there has been a significant abatement in terms of the deprivation of rights for the antecedents of Dr. Berman, the posterity of black antecedents, by and large, owing to a number of factors (viz., prejudicial thinking, inadequate funding of public schools, discrimination in employment and housing, "high visibility," etc.) has failed to realize equality of treatment and opportunity in our society.

The 1972 Census data show that 42.7 per cent of all black youths under 18 in our nation are in poverty.

5. Dr. Berman's remarks were not only gauche and fallacious, but a colossal affront to the honoree, Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, president emeritus of Morgan, who has given 22 years of his life in a demonstrable and distinctive support of educational excellence.

It is most unfortunate that Dr. Jenkins had to endure the speaker's obtuseness, incivility and insatiable proclivity for the spotlight.



DR. SAMUEL L. BANKS

There is, of course, a larger question that looms in this matter relative to whether Dr. Berman possesses the knowledge, temperament and sensitivity necessary to represent all segments of the population as a member of the Board of Trustees of the State Colleges.

The performance at Morgan finds him egregiously lacking in judgment and sensitivity.

SAMUEL L. BANKS
(Coordinator of Social Studies, K-12 Baltimore City Public Schools)

It may get me crucified, I may even die, but I want it said if I die in the struggle that 'he died to make men free..!'
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. - 1929-1968

Hymie: - not guilty

Dear AFRO:

Your editorial and the letter from Mrs. Jacquelyn Bradshaw (April 19, 1975) pertaining to the conduct of members of the Board of Estimates at the hearing on the education budget were well-founded except for one thing — I was not one of the culprits.

When a similar accusation was made during the hearing, I pointed out that I had been very attentive. The speaker thereupon acknowledged that this was true.

Enclosed is a photocopy of a letter which I received from Mr. Gerard J. Gaeng, one of the citizens at the meeting, who wrote to commend me, saying "you distinguished yourself as the only member of the Board of Estimates who seems to understand the concept of a public hearing. Your interest, attentiveness and concern did not go unnoticed by the citizens in attendance." I feel sure that if you would contact Mrs. Bradshaw, she would agree.

I hope you will have the good grace to correct the error that was published in your newspaper.

During my entire service as city comptroller, I have considered it my duty to listen when citizens came before the Board of Estimates and I have commiserated with citizens who were confronted by intimidation and disrespect by some other members of the Board in several administrations.

I feel very strongly that if members of the Board of Estimates expect citizens to respect them, they ought to respect the citizens.

HYMAN AARON PRESSMAN
Comptroller

(Editor's note: AFRO columns are open for Mrs. Bradshaw and/or other citizens who desire to comment on conduct of public officials or any other matters).

Dr. Patterson

Dear AFRO:

I find it necessary to speak out again about an injustice and a false report. Last August, the forces of evil tried to do harm to Dr. Patterson and schools in our city, but the people of God rallied together to put them down to defeat.

Now the wolves have changed their clothing from white to black and the sheep are in danger of being destroyed when a school commissioner states in print that Dr. Patterson has done nothing about the conditions at Lombard and Clifton Park Junior High Schools.

He showed that he speaks out before he gets the facts and he is just a rubber stamp for those who would destroy Dr. Patterson and any black who tries to help his people.

I am an Inspector of Painting in the schools. I personally worked at the Lombard School. It was painted throughout, and it looks good. Much carpentry, glazing plumbing, plastering and locksmith work, along with lighting, has been done. Also, much work has been done at Clifton Park.

REV. AARON S. POWELL

P.S There is not one black contractor painting for the school board and in 10 gangs, all are white except for one black painter. Some gangs have as high as 17 men working on each shift. All are white. Facts don't lie.

Legislature

Dear AFRO:

The first session of the General Assembly is now behind me.

I would like to commend the fine job AFRO reporter Angela Chatman performed. As you can imagine, 14 delegates and 6 separate committees, 5 state senators and 5 separate committees are quite a chore for any person.

— LARRY YOUNG.

(Editor's note: The writer represents Baltimore City's 38th District in the General Assembly.)

Don't bump and booze, buy Harbor

Dear AFRO:

I am a stockholder in Harbor National Bank. This bank hopes to become Baltimore's first black-owned and operated national bank.

The organizers have been working on this project for over three years and selling stock in the bank at $5.00 per share for over 10 months.

The stock sales have continued in spite of setbacks such as the national economy situation. Support for Baltimore's black bank has come primarily from the little people in the city, church people, our small business people and store owners and shop people.

I am advised that big white businesses in the city have chosen not to buy stock in this bank as other businesses have done in black banks in other cities throughout the country.

I wonder why? Perhaps we should look at this for what it is. These are the same people we support with our dollars in buying their products and services and who turn around and grin in our faces and offer some token response to our community like putting some token black on a board.

I am also told that our "Black Bourgeoisie" has failed to give good financial support to the bank.

These are some of the same people who flaunt their positions and pass themselves off as the leaders of our folks. They may be seen by the hundreds at certain Baltimore County ballrooms spending as much as $100.00 under one roof to "bump and booze."

Yet, they can't find in their pockets money to buy some shares for their children. Could it be that they may be ashamed to buy just a few shares to help this most important effort because of what the Joneses or Finkelsteins might think?

When we realize what is happening, you have to face up to facts. I offer the organizers of Harbor National Bank and the people of Baltimore some suggestions as to how we can reach our goal of raising 1 million, five hundred thousand dollars ($1,500,000).

At our churches — Tell your minister about Harbor National Bank and tell your church board to invest some of the church money in stock.

(Look at Pittsburgh where the black-owned bank, New World, opened last month with a million dollars put in by churches).

Our clubs — We have more clubs in Baltimore than many big cities. Clubs can buy stock in the club's name. Instead of wasting your money on some give license plates, why not take those fees and buy stock? Remember brothers and sisters, looking like a million dollars is only looking.

We should remember our children and buy stock in their names. They will be the ones who will realize the greatest benefits of this important financial breakthrough.

Stock makes a good gift. Remember how many saving bonds you have given for newborns, birthdays? Buy stock in the bank for graduations, birthdays or just to say you care about someone else.

Harbor National Bank is going to represent opportunities for our community. There will be job opportunities and business opportunities created, a chance to be treated with dignity and respect when it comes to financial matters. (Why not? You can be an owner of it as a stockholder).

Let's not let this pass us by, black Baltimore. Support the Harbor National Bank by buying stock at $5 per share.

EARL KOGER SR.

Bascom on UMES

Dear AFRO:

This letter will probably come as a real surprise to some and to others it will suggest that I covet the high privilege of speaking to issues as I see them, without consulting or receiving the approbation of the most intimate of my friends.

In the main, if all the facts of the Princess Anne Campus of the University of Maryland are extant, I am shocked to read that the term "multi-racial" is unacceptable and demeaning on a predominantly black campus and can not be an accepted phenomena.

As one who has hopefully "paid my dues" as a bona fide black — I simply must suggest that biology, art, mathematics, philosophy and economics are not exclusively "black." Instead, they are marketable disciplines that know neither black nor white.

I am not an acquaintance of the chancellor, but I must suggest that Princess Anne has long been a stepchild of the system and I applaud the fact that he is willing to suggest that coalescing and not separatism is our way out in a multi-racial society.

MARION C. BASCOM

(Ed.'s note: The writer is minister of Douglass Memorial Community Church).

Favorable

Dear AFRO:

On behalf of the Baltimore City Fire Department and the Vulcan Blazers Inc., I thank the AFRO-Newspapers for the wonderful article on Captain Herman Williams — Safety Officer, (4-17-75).

He received most favorable response both in and out of the department.

CHARLES R. THOMAS
(President
Vulcan Blazers Inc.)



If you are under 21 and have a teenage problem, Jan might lend you a helping hand. All letters will be answered only in this column. Write Jan, Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203. Write all letters clearly and briefly.

Dear Jan:

I am 13, cute and small. Every girl can get a boyfriend except me. I wrote a letter to a boy in the 9th grade and I gave the letter to a friend to give to him.

Later, she told me she was going with him. She told me they were in love first. Every time I see him with her I get jealous. I see some of the ugliest girls going with the finest boys. I can't understand why I can't get a boyfriend.

R. A. S.

Dear R.A.S.:

Some of those ugly gals concentrate on the guys and not themselves. Many guys shun pretty girls because they act stuck on themselves. Boys like friendly people who show an interest in their activities.

Start work on your mind, a pleasant personality. The next time you see a cute guy, don't send a friend to toot your horn.

—

Dear Jan:

I am 13 and have a problem with my boyfriend. He came to my house one night after smoking reefers. Now my mother thinks I'm on drugs. She's threatening to put me away. She won't believe I don't use drugs. What should I do?

Not On Drugs

Dear NOD:

Drop the boyfriend. Your mother is worried and judges you by the company you keep. You need counseling.

..Is there a school counselor, minister or aunt you can talk to? Can you tell your mother what you told me? Try.

Dr. Percy Julian

An Editorial

Dr. Percy Julian, the renowned scientist and humanitarian, was known around the world for his life-saving developments.

Although born in Montgomery, Ala., he had many Baltimore ties. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. James S. Julian, lived for years on Schroeder St., here in Baltimore. They sacrificed to see that their six children were educated.

Three of them are still in Baltimore, Dr. James S. Julian Jr., the physician, Dr. Emerson Julian, who is also a city councilman and Mrs. Elizabeth White, a longtime Baltimore teacher.

In the early days before he launched his science career, Dr. Percy Julian courted and won a Baltimore lady, the former Anna Johnson, his wife of 39 years, who survives.

In his long and distinguished career, Dr. Percy Julian won numerous honors and awards — including the NAACP coveted Spingarn Medal in 1947.

Here is a partial list of the accomplishments of this great scientist whose work will long be remembered:

He developed fire foam extinguishers which saved Army and Navy lives in World War II.

He discovered a cheap soya bean process for coating and sizing paper. The Glidden Co. made Dr. Julian's soya protein in a million dollar factory. He was the first chemist to make the drug physostigmine in quantities sufficient to help thousands crippled by eye ailments, including glaucoma.

Until he was hospitalized in January, Dr. Julian remained active in research. His last research was on liquid crystals used for accurate reading of thermometers.

In his 76 years, Dr. Julian's work helped save the lives of countless babies and prolonged the active life of millions of men and women.

He made cheap ephedrine, an element in cold medicine, which formerly had to be procured from frog legs.

Progesterone, the female hormone which prevents miscarriage and the male hormone, testosterone, both used to be imported from Germany.

Dr. Julian discovered a way to get these hormones from the soybean in unlimited amounts.

'S AND YOU

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Don't look back — something may be catching up. Accent is on health, work, activity in hospital, club, unique organization.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Exchange of calls, correspondence proves stimulating. Friend who is enthusiastic may not have all facts.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Home environment now is important than usual. Make concessions, be diplomatic. Family member is seeking face-saving device. Respond in sympathetic manner.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Hold off on confrontation with neighbor, relative. Misunderstanding can be eliminated if you are perceptive.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Member of opposite sex deserves another chance. Act accordingly. You are due for vote of confidence. Accent added responsibility.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You gain additional recognition. Legal papers, connected with home or property, need personal attention. Finish project, assignment. Leave no loose ends.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Highlight independence, originality, creativity. Give of yourself and you also will receive what you seek. Keep commitment to one who is confined to home, hospital.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Not wise to mix money and friends. Key now is to consolidate, to bring together persons capable of helping each other. Strive to maintain neutral stance.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Older individual is on your side. Although it may not be apparent. Stick to principles. Room is being made for you in a more pleasant area.

Where to call

HOT LINE — 539-5151 for abandoned vehicles; dirty yards; garbage collections; street lights, street repairs.

POLICE — Emergency, 222-3333; Community relations, 396-2710.

SERVICE — Ambulance, 396-1111; bad food, 396-4424; animal removal, 396-0218; fire, 685-1313; defective sidewalk, 396-3168; rats, 396-4418; food stamps, 234-2751; oil furnace check, 396-4429.

EMERGENCY housing, heating or light, 234-2412; after 6 p.m. and weekends, 234-2172.

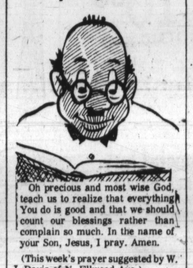
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION — 383-3700.

BALTIMORE ANSWERS YOU (BAY) — for help in problems with city agencies, 396-1234 (10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.).

WELFARE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION — 233-4700.

INFORMATION — City Jail, 396-5211; transit and traffic, 396-3049; drug abuse counseling, 396-2720; Job, 383-5468; legal aid, 539-5345; rumor control, 837-1188; rape center, 366-RAPE; pension reform, 962-3914.

MAYOR'S STATION — Govans, 396-8084; Greater Homewood, 396-6080; Northwest, 396-0024; Stewart Hill, 396-0207.



Mr. Bumble prayer

Oh precious and most wise God, teach us to realize that everything You do is good and that we should count our blessings rather than complain so much. In the name of your Son, Jesus, I pray. Amen.

(This week's prayer suggested by W. J. Davis of N. Ellwood Ave.)

Share your favorite prayer with the AFRO's Mr. Bumble, care of Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, P. O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Don't look back — something may be catching up. Accent is on health, work, activity in hospital, club, unique organization.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Exchange of calls, correspondence proves stimulating. Friend who is enthusiastic may not have all facts.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Home environment now is important than usual. Make concessions, be diplomatic. Family member is seeking face-saving device. Respond in sympathetic manner.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Hold off on confrontation with neighbor, relative. Misunderstanding can be eliminated if you are perceptive.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Member of opposite sex deserves another chance. Act accordingly. You are due for vote of confidence. Accent added responsibility.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You gain additional recognition. Legal papers, connected with home or property, need personal attention. Finish project, assignment. Leave no loose ends.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Highlight independence, originality, creativity. Give of yourself and you also will receive what you seek. Keep commitment to one who is confined to home, hospital.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Not wise to mix money and friends. Key now is to consolidate, to bring together persons capable of helping each other. Strive to maintain neutral stance.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Older individual is on your side. Although it may not be apparent. Stick to principles. Room is being made for you in a more pleasant area.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Be aware of subtle nuances. Someone is trying to pull your coat, to tell you something. Be receptive. A tent is on long-distance, special study, communications.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Be prepared for variety, change of scenery, spirited discussion. Accent is on finances, money of partner or mate.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Highlight diplomacy. Check legal sources. Rectify errors. Make conciliatory gesture to partner, mate. Professional superior is receptive to ideas, suggestions.



AFRO-Line is an effective AFRO community service to help you solve problems, whatever they may be.

All you have to do is write a post card, to AFRO-Line, 628 N. Eutaw St., P.O., Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. In addition to stating the question you want answered, include your name, address and telephone number.

SPECIAL NOTE: You may also report errors in news stories, request corrections, complain or inquire about AFRO news stories and policies by contacting AFRO-Line by phone or letter.

Weekdays call 728-8200, Extensions 64 or 50, between the hours 9 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. and talk in person to AFRO-Line service.

Your report will get prompt attention by top management of the AFRO it department.

Or write, AFRO-Line, P. O. Box 1857; Baltimore, Md., 21203; or drop in to see AFRO-Line at 628 N. Eutaw St.

—

QUESTION: I noticed some special blue cars around some intersections. Are these special police cars for the transit company: Are any of them black?—MRS. M. O.

ANSWER: Mr. Kouneski, public relations officer for the Mass Transit Authority (MTA) tells AFRO Line that MTA has always had cars and they also have supervisor's cars, and they all are blue.

At various times they may be following busses because of a number of problems. It could be a police problem or it could be some type of service problem, the bus may be late of the driver needs some direction.

MTA has about 80 blue cars out on the street at any given time. What is different today is that some of these blue cars are identified as police cars. They say "MTA Police" and have the MTA logo on them. The plain blue cars are usually the supervisor's cars.

The police cars are MTA police and they are regular police with full police powers.

The ratio of blacks and whites officers is close to 50-50, the spokesman said.

QUESTION: This is in reference to a vacant lot at Cherry Hill and Cherryland Rd., opposite the Catholic Church.

This lot is a disgrace to Cherry Hill. There is garabage there and rats as large as kittens. The men use it for a park and anything else they can.

Sometime a go, some men snatched a lady's pocketbook while she was on her way to church.

It seems to me that it would be much more safe if the trees were cut down. Can you investigate?—MRS. M. E. G.

ANSWER: AFRO-Line talked with Alvin Steele, Urban Services Agency center director, whose office is located on the opposite corner, and he confirmed this reader's complaint.

He advised that this property is owned by a private concern based in Pa. The USA has worked with the Department of Health and Sanitation to do something about it. The company was contacted and it had promised to keep it up.

Andrew Boswell, special sanitary enforcement officer informed AFRO-Line a lien was posted against the property last year and again this year. This means that