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)

That time of year again

With just 32 calendar days until Christmas, it is not too early to remind readers that the AFRO's 28th annual Mrs. Santa program is in operation.

Those who have supported this annual endeavor with their contributions, as well as those who have benefitted from the gifts, started the ball rolling before the first announcement earlier this month.

Already our Mrs. Santa's mailbox is full of letters appealing for help for deserving families. And, readers have begun to notify us they can be depended on for their usual support.

This is good news. Not in recent years has our Mrs. Santa received so many requests for help. In order for her to help those less fortunate, she will need many generous contributions.

Here is how AFRO readers can help Mrs. Santa:

1. Send your cash contribution (check or money order) to Mrs. Santa, AFRO Charities Inc. All contributions are tax deductible.

2. Watch for listing of needy families on Mrs. Santa's page in this and every edition of the AFRO. Families will be identified by numbers, and you can call Mrs. Santa to get the name and address of the family you would like to adopt.

Again this year, the AFRO's Mrs. Santa reminds her supporters that once they call and adopt a family it is expected they will meet their needs and the family is eliminated from Mrs. Santa's list. Do not call for a name unless you plan to follow through. If you fail to help the family you select, theirs may be a very unhappy Christmas.

Special Note:—

Remember, the Christmas season is a time for cheerful giving.

Everyone can help the AFRO's Mrs. Santa aid those less fortunate. YOU can start today.

Remember the address: Mrs. Santa

c/o AFRO Charities Inc.
P.O. Box 1857
Baltimore, Md. 21203

Mitchell, Blount right

The kind of responsible leadership voters get from their elected officials was demonstrated this week by Congressman Parren J. Mitchell and State Senator Clarence W. Blount.

In a joint statement, the two lawmakers made it perfectly clear they and their constituents are dissatisfied with what they call "an unacceptable affront" to the black community.

At issue is the Schaefer administration's expected failure to renew the contract of Civic Center Director Harold J. Jennifer who has won national recognition for his performance.

Congressman Mitchell and Senator Blount term the Civic Center Commission's treatment of Jennifer as an "appalling and disturbing political move, . . . apparently with the blessing of Mayor Schaefer."

Last week, in this space, we suggested there is urgent need for our black elected officials to take a stand on pressing issues.

So, we applaud the position expressed by Messrs. Mitchell and Blount. And, they have rank. Mr. Mitchell is a member of the Banking, Currency and Housing Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. Senator Blount is majority whip in our state senate and head of the city delegation there and a wheel on the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the Legislature's Budget and Audit Committees.

These two men contend that Baltimore City by refusing to renew the Jennifer contract may cause "major miscalculations with potentially devastating financial implications."

We would hope the Schaefer administration, which will need the support of these influential Democratic leaders, will listen carefully to their concerns and correct the Civic Center contract situation promptly.

Sorry show

Last year, fewer than half of the eligible voters in America showed up at the polls — only 40 per cent, a sad contrast to voter participation in other countries.

In Australia, Sweden and West Germany, voter turnout has exceeded 80 per cent since 1960!

In Canada, Great Britain and Finland, it exceeds 70 per cent.

The turnout of American voters is just about equal to the percentage of eligible voters in underdeveloped nations of Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East.

(From Table Talk)

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 presented 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).

'No good reason, Jennifer's just out'

Washington — by parren j. mitchell

NYC . . . our problem

(Mr. Mitchell represents Md.'s Seventh District in the U.S. House of Representatives)

In an off the cuff remark, one of the more bigoted frequenters of Capitol Hill was overheard to say, "we should not help New York because its run by the Jews, who run the Niggers and the Puerto Ricans."

While I do not believe that the resistance towards aiding New York is based solely on racist considerations, I do insist that beneath the cover of high sounding rhetoric, the element of racism is indeed involved.

The topic has been given extensive media coverage, and you are familiar with some of the arguments pro and con.

Opponents to any assistance for New York argue, that the City has been wasteful and foolish, it has made its own mess and it must now find its own way out of the mess.

Another argument raised is that if the Federal Government aids New York City, what is there to prevent other Cities which face severe economic problems from coming in next, asking for Federal help.

A third argument raised by opponents is that if New York City goes bankrupt it will not have any appreciable impact on the Nation's economic system.

The Speaker of the House and the House Majority Leader make out a good case for the Federal assistance to "The Big Apple."

Speaker Carl Albert said: "If New York City's situation is as critical as it appears to be, urgent action is needed.

"We cannot let crime run rampant, let people go hungry, let garbage rot in the streets for months or deny the sick a hospital bed.

"New York's default would be disastrous. It would send financial shock waves through the Nation, and could have serious international implications."

Majority Leader Thomas P. O'Neill pointed out that "the choice is between a Federal guarantee to back up the New York bonds or billions of dollars later out of the pockets of the American taxpayer.

In my opinion the New York City crisis must be resolved. The uncertainty about New York has caused States to cancel over $1.2 billion in long term borrowing since May of this year.

Even the States which appear to be in pretty good financial shape are paying penalties.

For example, in 1974 Maryland negotiated $570 million in bond sales.

If New York goes bankrupt and credit is tightened; it will cost Maryland $997.5 (thousands) in added first year interest costs, and the added interest cost to the State for the life of the Bond issues would be $11.9 million.

I will support the Bill, H.R. 10481, a bill drafted by the Committee on Banking, Currency and Housing, on which I serve, aimed at preventing a New York City collapse while at the same time laying down tough fiscal conditions for the State and the City.

This legislation is not a blank check bailout or a handout.

Instead, it guarantees the securities that must be issued to prevent bankruptcy by the City and provides a suspending authority to make sure that New York's fiscal house is put in order so that the guarantee need not be exercised.

In short, it is designed to cost the American taxpayer nothing. The alternative to this Bill could well be default, bankruptcy and collapse for New York City that could cost taxpayers throughout the Nation billions of dollars.

The young beat — by larry young

YOUR voice in Annapolis

The following editorial comment is a quote from the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, April 11, 1914; "As a rule, when a legislature adjourns, the people are always glad it did no worse than it did, bad as that might have been."

Some would argue that what was said here 61 years ago, is pretty true today, that being their opinion of the 1975 Maryland General Assembly Session. An AFRO reporter's assessment of the 1975 90-day session is that only a handful of bills of "special interest to black people were enacted, and this is bad."

But, look at the other side of the coin: — Black legislators and the total community were rightfully proud of the passage of the Morgan University bill — the Black Legislative Caucus showed its skill in pushing through this important legislation.

Also on the plus side, in addition to the Morgan University bill, was Sen. Clarence Blount's measure holding landlords responsible for conditions of properties, Del. Ike Dixon's regulation of credit accounts.

Also, a bill providing workmen's compensation for household workers who earn at least $250 per quarter which was introduced by this writer and Del. Pinkney Howell's restrictions on eviction.

Perhaps other individuals could determine if there was additional legislation which was in the best interest of our community.

The point which I wish to urge upon AFRO readers is that the 1976 Session will start on January 14, 1976.

If, by your scorecard, not enough was achieved in 1975, then the challenge is for YOU to work with your black legislators to make the 1976, 1977 and 1978 legislative sessions better.

I see a need for a citizens' lobbying course, patterned after the format arranged by the Maryland League of Women Voters.

I would think that it would be an informative program for various community organizations, associations, PTAs and other groups, to invite your legislator to speak to your group and explain the legislative process, bills he or she has introduced or will introduce, and most importantly, to discuss with you what types of laws you would be most interested in.

In addition to the proposed citizens' lobbying course, I would strongly recommend that during the 90-day Session your group make at least two trips to Annapolis.

If you have a retired person associated with your organization, your group could establish a legislative committee so that that person can serve as your legislative liaison. Finally, you have a right and a responsibility to want good laws for our state.

If you have an idea, meet with your legislator, or write to him or her, and jointly compose the type of legislation you feel is needed.

The major concern that I had as a freshman legislator was the lack of communication from the constituents back home regarding whether they were for or against a particular piece of legislation.

Attendance at various committee meetings was scarce, with the exception of three or four issues. Even with a toll-free number to call Annapolis, to obtain copies of legislation, or to talk with your legislator, it appeared that our readers vastly under-utilized this service.

The legislature is instrumental in integrating public demands with public policy.

The following are duties and responsibilities of the Senate and the House of Delegates:

(1) To pass laws necessary for the welfare of Maryland citizens.

(2) To pass public laws for counties and special taxing areas.

(3) To decide the manner in which state funds are to be spent.

(4) To supervise the state's administrative agencies.

(5) To propose amendments to the state's constitution.

Now and then — by g. james fleming

What happened to the women?

All during the Claudette Chandler campaign for mayor, we kept wondering "Where are the women?"

We really meant "Where is Women's Lib?" Where is that headline-enjoying group of females dedicated to putting women up front, to elevating them, on the main argument that they are women?

One might have expected loud endorsement for Chandler from the Baltimore chapter of NOW; hundreds of volunteers, on and off the streets, and many givers and raisers of much needed finances.

None of these efforts would have led to the election of a woman in 1975, but the women's involvement would have shown their strength, as women, and their vote would have been a whale of a protest against either "things as they are," or against the predominant maleness of government and the rest of the power structure.

Of course, there were other issues and circumstances connected with the majority contest besides the femaleness of Mrs. Chandler.

There was the strength of the incumbent—any incumbent, the Republican Party connection of his opponent, and the fact that she is black.

Nevertheless, Women's Lib, (largely white women), is revolutionary and one should expect more from them, just because of their expressed commitment and rhetoric.

Now to other matters;

Hats off to Rep. Parren Mitchell for his stepping forward in defense of the civil rights of Governor Mandel.

No one would call the congressman a stooge of the governor. The two men have clashed on several occasions. It may be said that they are very different kinds of Democrats; even very different kinds of politicians.

It is all the more significant, therefore, that Cong. Mitchell reminds us all that Mr. Mandel has "rights" also; that the protracted "investigation" against him, the "leaks" and the innuendos come pretty near to violating "due process."

The general public, especially, must remember that, to this day, the governor has not been charged with any crime, much less found guilty of anything. Nor, has he yet, had his day in court.

It is more than a medical problem that one medical school, the Johns Hopkins, has received 3,500 applications for the next school year, while it can accommodate only 100 first-year students.

It is more than medical, too, that of all the applicants, 1,400 are most eligible for admittance, and that the last 500 to be screened are all really excellent prospects, both as students and doctors.

The University of Maryland Medical School and the other medical institutions undoubtedly have a similar experience.

With the shortage of doctors in the country, especially in the non-urban areas and among minorities, it is clear that the nation needs more medical schools.

These will have to be built by government, due to the very high cost of constructing and equipping a modern medical complex.

Existing medical schools also must have more government grants-in-aid and scholarships. Politicians ought to give this problem serious consideration.

One step in the right direction has been taken by Morehouse College.

This historically outstanding institution is well on the way to opening a 2-year medical program, to prepare prospective doctors for their last two years of medical training in established 4-year medical schools.

This writer has been a supporter of the United Nations from the time it was only an idea.

It is always deeply grievous, therefore, whenever the UN takes the low road rather than the high, or whenever its area of weakness force it to turn against its own highest ideals and promise.

That is the way we feel over the recent anti-Israeli position taken by the General Assembly, (the anti-Zionism resolution). But, we are not for abolishing the UN; we hope it will not fall apart.

Our hearts go out to our Jewish friends who, down the years, have supported all the causes for blacks liberation; who provided the civil rights lawyers for the early black protest movements; who marched, some 30,000 strong, with 220,000 blacks in the famous "March-on-Washington," and who have more been sinned against than they have sinned.

A little about a lot — by madeline w. murphy

Thanksgiving, a year round resolution

Thanksgiving, with its stark contrasts of gluttony and starvation, is not an easy nor pleasant time in a city like Baltimore fraught with unemployment and poverty among the thousands of inner city residents.

Especially now when sororities and social service groups prepare their annual baskets for the needy, Thanksgiving should be remembered mainly as a religious observance despite governmental proclamations.

Miriam Bunce, writing in Liberty Magazine, cautions us that Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson and James Madison stoutly opposed a resolution requesting a day of thanksgiving and prayer to observe "with grateful hearts the many signal favours of Almighty God."

Implicit in this refusal was the implication as Jackson warned that "such proclamations might disturb the security which religion now enjoys in this country, in complete separation from the political concerns of the general government."

President Madison, Mrs. Bunce continues, stated five objections to the practice of issuing proclamations after he left the presidency, although he was pressured into signing one during his tenure.

These objections were:

"1. Such proclamations are recommendations only and as such are not a function of government. They are merely advisory, and "advisory government" is a contradiction in term."

"2. Government in this country cannot act in ecclesiastical matters."

"3. Governmental religious proclamations carry the implication of a national religion. (We should remember that experience with national religions in Europe had left our founding fathers with justified mistrust of such establishments. National religions usually attempted to solve the problem of dissent by prohibiting deviations from the national standard. The result was suffering and bloodshed).

"4. Such proclamations would tend to conform to standards of predominant religious sect. (And indeed, President Adams' proclamation called for a Christian observance, ignoring any other religious beliefs).

"5. Presidential proclamations would tend to make the particular religious practice subservient to political views and might increase party animosities."

The specter of soup kitchens, hand-outs, bread lines and other stopgap methods to ease the growing hunger of thousands who are down and out, brings to mind how one group helped to solve, in a small way, the problem of hungry people.

One church, each Sunday in November, had a canned goods offering to stock the church pantry for the benefit of needy members and neighbors.

Periodically, as the larder grew empty, a round-up was scheduled for church groups on various Sundays — each of these Sundays was designated for each church group — to replenish the stock, for the rationale became evident that needy people go hungry every day of the year, not just on Thanksgiving, Christmas or Easter.

Thanksgiving, a religious effort, should more logically be based in the work of churches, for what good is separation of church and state, if it leaves a vacuum and if churches do not fulfill their mission year round?

". . . for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me . . . Truly as I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these, my brethren, you did it to me."

(Reprinted from Chicago Defender)

"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

PAGE OPPOSITE

The housing picture

Dear AFRO:

In the Nov. 1 issue of the AFRO, the 'Little About a Lot' column by Madeline W. Murphy stated that HCD (Housing and Community Development) removes people from neighborhoods and makes no effort to bring them back.

The opposite is true. Every displaced family receives a signed certificate giving them first priority for any new or rehabilitated houses in their old neighborhood.

Your columnist says there are middle class blacks who should live in decent housing in the city. All of the housing the city has rehabilitated for middle class families has been sold to middle class blacks.

Your writer says blacks have no say about how urban renewal money is spent. In fact, no money is spent in an urban renewal project unless approval is first secured from the neighborhood.

Further, the writer claims the urban renewal money for Park Height will go to "merchants not people." The writer should talk to the citizens who constitute the Park Heights Community Corporation. They have designated all of the money for people-oriented programs having nothing to do with merchants.

Your columnist asks for a public works project for the jobless then in the next sentence criticizes bricks and mortar programs. The urban renewal money is a public works project and we do more than any other public agency to insure the work is done by minority workers and contractors.

Your writer is raising good and valid questions which we are concerned about. I would be delighted to review our efforts with her and the AFRO editorial staff to determine how we can do a better job.

R. C. EMBRY JR.
(Commissioner, Department of Housing and Community Development)

Editorial amen

Dear AFRO: You've done it again—your very timely editorial, "Leadership Needed," (Nov. 15), and the accompanying cartoon, "Time for our black leaders to cash in some of their chips."

I'm glad your editors didn't mince any words, because you are perfectly right when you said, "A black enadidate worth his salt can carry black votes even against the desires of certain black elected officials."

Your analysis had it right when you said: "We think the Rev. Marion C. Bascom, a Republican with little money or organization, proved something every black and white politican in Baltimore had better pay some attention to—he collected almost twice the black vote Orlinsky did—despite the fact just about every black elected official, all Democrats, supported Schaefer and Orlinsky."

And, I'm saying amen to your other very excellent admonition, "It's time black elected officials stand up in Baltimore and be worthy of the responsibility entrusted to them." Amen! — Just sign me A VOTER.

Editor's note: Writer's name deleted upon request).

Handgun

Dear AFRO:

At the United States Conference of Mayors held May 27-29, 1975 in the city of Los Angeles, a national forum on the subject of Handgun Control was held.

One of the most articulate and deeply concerned advocates of Handgun control at the conference was Mayor Maynard Jackson of Atlanta, Ga.

This is not surprising when you realize the city of Atlanta leads the United States in homicides committed per 100,000 population.

According to Mayor Jackson, of the 248 homicides in Atlanta in 1974, 86 were the result of sudden anger, 63 resulted from domestic quarrels and the most often stated motives were drunken arguments, jealousy and revenge.

It was clearly demonstrated that the availability of the handgun was a principal factor in these crimes.

With a black population in Atlanta of over 50 per cent it is a safe assumption that a large proportion of these homicides were the result of blacks killing blacks.

JOHN L. BERRY

How about putting your Voter's card to work?

Dear AFRO:

How many times in the past month have AFRO readers worn a name tag?

This coming holiday season and next summer thousands of black organizations will be hold meetings, conventions, workshops, etc. and all will be urging their members to VOTE in the 1976 elections.

Each one of these groups will also spend some money in buying name tags to identify delegates.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if they saved this money and urged each person attending to wear their voter's card as identification of being a member in good standing!

The card not only gives the name but it also tells the city and state.

Each organization could supply the plastic covering and maybe using marking pencils to write in such things as "officer," "delegate" or "visitor."

Can you imagine what impact this would have on a big convention like the Elks and Masons have Also the doctors, the sororities, fraternities, church meetings, etc.

By this simple gesture, every organization in the country could easily separate the Talkers from the doers.

F. LOUISE CAMPBELL

NOWADAYS — by bill riley

"DARLING, YOU'RE SIMPLY GOING TO HAVE TO RUN THIS HOUSE A LITTLE MORE ECONOMICALLY."

tell it to Jan

Dear Jan:

My man is locked-up and will be for sometime. We love each other very much and want to get married while he is locked up if possible. We have a very good understanding, trust, and faith between us. And, I am going to tell you now that I don't just sit around waiting for him. He even told me if I found someone else I'd better go ahead even if it hurt him.

We write each other all the time and I have been to see him every week for the last 16 months since he has been away. I love him and I am only truly happy when I am with him. Should I wait for him?

S. P.

Dear S. P.

I can't tell you to wait or not to wait. You seem to be a strong-willed person and have already made up your mind. I strongly advise you to re-think your position. What about his three children? Has his wife divorced him? What is he going to do when he finally gets out of prison? Both of your families think he will ruin your life. If you want my advice, I'd suggest you give up the idea of marriage at this time.

Dear Jan:

I am 18 years old and work hard trying to be something. I met this dude in Washington about 7 months ago. He came to my cousin's house one weekend.

I called him up and asked when are we going to get together. He said he didn't know. I gave him my telephone number so that he could call me up. He never called. I have a nice personality and I treat him nice. He acts like he doesn't want to be bothered. What shall I do? A.C.

Dear A. C.

He doesn't want to be bothered. You scared him off by being too pushy. There are plenty of other fish in the sea. This one got away. Happy hunting.

Smile

Trying to locate her boyfriend in a distant army camp, the girl called on the LD operator for help.

"What outfit is he in?" asked the hello girl.

"In his fatigues I think," was the answer. "He's on KP duty."

If YOU ask ME — by bettye moss

College note: Community College board of trustees is due to pick a new vice president in charge of the Harbor Campus when it meets next week.

Person would succeed Dr. William V. Lockwood, the longtime faculty member who is credited with being the architect of the Harbor unit due to open next year. (He resigned recently because of health reasons.)

Cuff notes: Two local persons with docotrates and an out-of-towner have been interviewed for the post.

People being kind department: Dr. Lockwood, mentioned above, will be honored this coming Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Event is an artistic tribute in the college Fine Arts Center. Reception follows.

Good news: Rona Ammons, 20-year-old sophomore at the Univ. of Pa., who was injured in a fall from her dorm six months ago, is out of Children's Hospital and recuperating at home.

She has been flat on her back all these months, but has managed to keep in good spirits. For the past three weeks, she has been at her Callaway Ave., home, is able to walk around now and is busy studying her lessons.

Glad you're better cards to Mrs. Julia Richardson Woodland, the Dunbar High principal, who has been confined to her home for nearly a month. She expects to be back at her post on Monday.

Many know Mrs. Woodland as the hardworking and dedicated school exec., who has worked long hours, even during the vacation season, to make sure that handsome new Dunbar High complex opened on time and operated at top efficiency.

Continue sunshine to Mrs. Cliff Gattis (Helen), the clubwoman and teacher whom many know as a good, good neighbor. She's out of the hospital and recuperating at her Tulsa Rd., home.

People remembering: Union Baptist Church was filled on Saturday evening for funeral services for Miss Alma Ball, whom many knew as a hard working, kindly church worker and good neighbor. Burial was Sunday in Kilmarnock, Va.

At Union, Alma active for many years with the Sunday School, Arts and Crafts Guild, the Gertrude Neal Circle and the Sanctuary Choir. And did her favorite thing: sing!

Many others knew Miss Ball as the helpful saleslady at Ruth J's Boutique, when it first opened on Forest Park Ave., and later at its present Liberty Rd., location. She will be missed.

More people being kind to others: It was so on Sunday afternoon when over 400 beautiful people gathered for the seventh annual fashion show and luncheon sponsored by the Willia Bland Flair Studio.

Most thrilling moments — when the entire audience, including adult and teen models in her studio and the special guests, rose to give Miss Bland two standing ovations.

She put the show together and she is together — proving that a woman can perform admirably even though her heart is heavy. She had buried her mother, Mrs. Addie E. Buck, the week before.

Those of us who watched her gracefully acknowledge the plaudits of the crowd can be excused if we cried a bit. The cheers were for her bravery and at the moving words of Mrs. Beatrice Avery.

Mrs. Avery put it like this "Those of us who knew Mrs. Buck know she's smiling on you today and saying, "Go on Willia, hold your head high, 'cause truly you have done the best you could."

And the best it was — one of the most elegant affairs this writer has seen in many a day — well arranged and executed.

Most important, the planners showed vision. They involved and featured and gave credit to young people who are on the way up.

Cuff Note: Next time you go to a fashion show and watch models parade across a stage with poise, remember it ain't easy to do, and give them a round of applause.

Those adult guests who were cited by the Flair Studio learned first hand, it's more than a notion to walk the stage with a crowd seated below. Try it and see for yourself.

Cuff Note: Wanna learn what talented things young people, adults and teens are doing these days? Arrange to visit Flair Studio and see for yourself. In addition to modeling lessons, there is instruction in how to walk and sit and the other graces. Course is open to males and females. Location is 2727 W. Mosher.

More people being kind: Staff members, friends and relatives gathered at Emerald Gardens on Tuesday evening for a tribute to Grace Booker Hunt, retiring executive director of the YWCA of the Greater Baltimore Area.

Since 1969, Mrs. Hunt has been head of the downtown metropolitan branch. Before that, she headed the Madison Ave., Branch and was a social worker.

Liked the way, associates correctly described her as a quiet, elegant woman whose manner should not be interpreted as one who lacks courage, for indeed Grace Hunt has scaled great heights, enabling the Baltimore YWCA to be a model for good inter-group relations.

Liked the way, United Fund exec., Allen Larsen added to his salute a special nod to Grace's husband, W. Winston Hunt. He's the Westinghouse exec., who helped lead the United Fund drive there which raised $600,000 this year.

Baltimoreans will be happy to know that Mrs. Hunt is not planning to leave her adopted Baltimore or to live a life of leisure . . . she tells this column she will rest for a while, and then, we bet, we'll be seeing Grace Hunt in the fore of things again. She's that kind of concerned individual.

Salute of Week

Mrs. Sadie Shannon Blocker who will be 90 years old on November 22, is being saluted this week by her children.

Mrs. Blocker is the oldest of three children born to Elijah and Annie B. Henson. Her sister, Mrs. Ada F. Spencer resides on Spencer Rd., in Glen Burnie.

The Rev. James Edgar Henson, assistant pastor of Wayland Baptist Church is her brother. He lives on Old Annapolis Road in Glen Burnie.

Mrs. Blocker was born in East Baltimore. She was 8 when she moved with her parents to Anne Arundel County and enrolled in public schools.

However, she came to the city for her high school studies and attended Douglass.

Mrs. Blocker was formerly married to Advill Shannon, a widower with two children. He died in 1960. They had five children, (3 of whom died at an early age.

The family now includes four generations The five children, are Herbert Shannon, Lewis Shannon, Miss Sarah Shannon, all of Baltimore; Mrs. Frances Washington and Mrs. Elsie Smith of Glen Burnie.

The three grandchildren are Michelle Shannon, Gregory Shannon, Mrs. Audrey S. Booker. Great grandchild, Miss Aelisha Green.

In 1962 she married Ira R. Blocker. He died October 18, 1973.

Mrs. Blocker's entire life has been centered around church and civic work. During her first marriage, she attended First Baptist Church with her children and Grace Memorial.

She was born Methodist but had no scruples about other faiths.

Later, she went to her own church, Christ United Methodist, where she served as trustee, steward, president of Women's Society of Christian Women, sang on the Senior Choir and chaired several local organizations.

In 1963 Mrs. Blocker joined Mt. Winans United Methodist Church. There she served as president of Woman's Society of Christian service, chairman of Hospital and Home Committee. She is also a member of the Senior Choir; the Trustee Board and is the Christian Social Involvement Coordinator. She attends Church School regularly.

Mrs. Blocker served as Status of Women and Supply secretary for the North Baltimore District of Women's Society. She is active as Washington Conference Women's Society Christian Social Relations secretary.

This assignment finds her traveling throughout the U.S.

Our Salute of the Week subject is known as a good neighbor and friendly volunteer.

She has been connected to the N. M. Carroll Home for the Aged for the past 38 years. She is presently a member of the trustee board and serves on several committees.

She has several firsts to her credit.

In the early twenties, she was the first woman to receive license to operate a motor cycle. In 1929 she received a certificate for nursing from the Good Shepherd Hospital.

Also Mrs. Blocker served on the committee which helped found the Chick Webb Recreation Center. At present, she is vice president of the Mt. Winans Civic Interest Group and chairman of the Steering Committee.

Her hobbies are cooking and sewing. Because she loves people she is proud that she has many friends. They, in turn consider themselves lucky to call her friend.

MRS. SADIE BLOCKER
90 candles for her this weekend

Afro Line

EDITED BY TRUDY STEELE

QUESTION: Why are all visitors to Md. House of Correction in Jessup regardless of age or physical condition, required to walk the long distance from the parking lot to the main building? Has this system become so cold and impersonal that human feelings are no longer important, or does security require this? I would suggest a means of transportation be provided for those who require it or in bad weather. H.A.

ANSWER: Warden Ralph Williams told AFRO Line: "The distance from Post One to the Visitor's Room is about a couple hundred yards, which is not an inordinate length. The distance is for security measures. We can not allow people to come on the grounds. The building is where people must report before coming to the institution."

Warden Williams added: "Any visitor who comes here, a parent or loved one of an inmate, if they have some physical infirmity or the weather is bad, we always under those circumstances allow the visitors to drive down to the front gate, let the person out and take the car back to the parking lot. I am personally concerned about these people and especially older people."

Our AFRO Line writer will be happy to learn that Warden Williams and staff are preparing a new visiting area where the distance will be cut down considerably.

He estimated it will be a distance of no more than 100 feet which is expected to be completed "sometime next year."

QUESTION: I have two small dogs. Whenever I take them in the car and go near a park, they constantly howl and jump from the front to the back of the car.

The other morning I decided to stop at the park. They got out and ran around, but they made no noise nor were they upset.

However, when I started down Druid Park Drive near the TV station they howled and jumped so I could not hear the radio. When I turned it off they immediately quieted down.

Why did this happen? — M.D.

ANSWER: We have asked for an official explanation from Md. Veterinary Association. Watch AFRO Line for an answer.

QUESTION: I live at 3702 Sequoia Ave., and there is a tree in front of my house which needs to be trimmed. I could do it myself but I think it belongs to the City and I would need permission. Can you help me find out how I can get this permission. J.T.

ANSWER: Write to Calvin Rutkena, Forestry Division, Druid Hill Park, Baltimore, Md. 21217 and ask for permission to trim the tree in front of your house.

Where to call

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

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION — for complaints of discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical or mental disability — for report of tension in your community — 396-3141.

CONSUMER PROTECTION — for questionable business practices — 383-3708.

CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND — Resulting from robberies or assaults — 339-3360.

DISASTERS — fires, floods, hurricanes — 467-9905.

EMERGENCY — Housing, heating, light — 234-2172 or 265-6525 — After 6 p.m. and weekends, 396-2426 or 396-2053.

FIRES — 685-1313.

HOT LINE — 539-5151 — for abandoned motor vehicles, dirty yards, garbage collection, clogged sewers, street repairs, bulky trash pickup.

INFORMATION — City Jail, 396-5211 — Drug Abuse Counseling, 396-2728 — Job, 383-5468 — Legal Aid, 539-5340 — Pension Reform, 962-3914 — Transit and Traffic, 396-3049.

MAYOR'S STATIONS — Govans, 396-6084 — Greater Homewood, 396-6088 — Northwest, 396-0224 — Steuart Hill, 396-6207.

POLICE — emergency, 222-3333 — community relations, 396-2716.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION — for complaints about phone or gas and electric services, 383-5374.

RAPE CENTER — 366-RAPE

RUMOR CONTROL — 837-1188.

SERVICE — Ambulance, 396-2111 — Animal Removal, 396-0118 — Defective Sidewalk, 396-3168 — Food Stamps, 234-2751, 234-2413; — Oil Furnace Check — 396-4429 — Rats, 396-4415.

WELFARE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION — 234-4700.

TELLS OF THREAT TO ARREST HER

YOU KNOW BECAUSE YOU READ THE AFRO

22 NOV 22