FOUNDED Aug. 13, 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1840-1922. Published every Tuesday and Saturday by The AFRO - AMERICAN Co., at 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)

Howard County exposed

The Howard County school system has been exposed as party to one of those cruel examples of racism where the perpetrators get caught and then try to smoothly cover-up their dirty work.

After arbitrator Robert I. Bloch ruled that a selection committee had improperly considered racial and other nonprofessional factors in passing over Charles Griffin for the post of pupil personnel supervisor, Paul F. Rhetts sought to impress upon the public that racism had not been involved.

If Rhetts, a spokesman for the system, hadn't read the emphatic report by the arbitrator, he should have said so rather than attempt to sell an incorrect story.

More disgusting than the cover-up attempt is the realization that it was a black educator, Elhart E. Flurry, Clarksville Middle School principal and a member of the selection committee, who trotted out the un-American view that Griffin's race might interfere with his doing the supervisory job.

How can black men and women sell their talents in the marketplace when other blacks, in responsible posts, question their ability to function in the mainstream rather than demand they be assured equal opportunity to serve.

Griffin, a pupil personnel worker in the school system 17 years has a master's degree. That's the same educational level attained by John Russell, a 14-year white school system employe who got the disputed job.

In accordance with the arbitrator's ruling, the post will be vacated and filled again after another selection run.

Griffin has decided to take his case to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission where he hopes to win the right to a job at the level of the one he lost due to improper factors being included in the selection process, such as his race and the fact he sent his child to a parochial school, and possibly a monetary reward.

We don't think a monetary reward can repay Griffin for the mistreatment heaped upon him but he deserves something and should get it. He also should have a job with comparable responsibility and pay as the one for which he had applied.

A monetary reward to Griffin would help make the practice of involving race in the selecting of school supervisors too costly to be tolerated by already overburdened taxpayers. Griffin's victory should encourage others who are discriminated against to demand justice. Only in that way can the struggle for an equal opportunity be won.

10,000 names needed

Everything is in readiness for launching of the drive by Councilman Emerson R. Julian to collect the 10,000 names which would petition to referendum his proposal to require new municipal employes be city residents.

If the 10,000 signatures are filed by the last Monday in July voters will have the chance to approve his City Charter amendment in November.

Volunteers interested in working in the effort to collect the names of registered voters may call Dr. Julian at 945-6886 or at 233-8227.

Response to an earlier appeal for volunteers has been good.

More church groups and political organizations have urged to join in the drive. Civic, club and youth groups also are needed in larger numbers.

A good thing about Dr. Julian's proposed amendment is that it would require only newly hired municipal workers to be city residents.

Although it is based on the same logic expressed this week by Mayor Richard Daley in Chicago when he declared, "If the city isn't good enough to live in, then I don't think I'd want to work for it." The Julian proposal is not nearly so harsh.

Mayor Daley has given all present Chicago employes until Aug. 1 to move into the city or lose their jobs.

The Supreme Court has held that municipal workers who reside within a city are more likely to have its interest at heart.

Baltimore needs workers who are interested in its welfare. If any job opens up for which it is necessary to recruit from outside the city, Julian's proposal simply would require the new worker to take a home in Baltimore. No city that now has residency requirement has a problem hiring the talent it needs due to the law.

The more volunteers available now, the easier will be the task of getting the 10,000 signatures and winning voter approval of the amendment. Call Councilman Julian and join the crusade.

Vote the Unity Slate

Voters in the Seventh Congressional District are free now to support the Unity State backed by the AFRO in the May 18 Primary.

Support for the Unity Slate, which includes four state senators and two others who together represent all the major political organizations in Baltimore, is more important now to future election advances for blacks than any other consideration.

Any slate that gets elected in the Seventh Congressional District is going to end up voting for former Gov. Jimmy Carter at the convention in July. That's the way the big picture is shaping up.

Members of the Unity Slate whose victories on May 18 are so crucial to black political development in the city are Senators Verda F. Welcome, Clarence Blount, Clarence Mitchell and Robert Douglass, along with Mrs. Mary Green and Earl Banks.

Getting the major local political organizations from the Westside and Eastside to work together the way they are in this primary has been a long hoped-for development.

City voters selected its four senators as their top local spokesmen and this year, working together, they gave a good accounting of themselves in the General Assembly session which recently ended.

If black voters will show again on May 18 that they respect their leadership and expect them to use their offices, influence and political knowhow, together, to keep bringing home the bacon, the AFRO feels sure the message will ring out loud and clear within and without our community.

4 good judges

Supreme Bench Judges John R. Hargrove, Mary Arabian, Martin B. Greenfeld and Robert L. Sullivan deserve reelection by Democrats and Republicans in the May 18 primary.

They are part of a Supreme Bench that has taken serious and dramatic moves to assure justice in the courthouse, both from the bench and in the area of employment of workers in the courthouse.

Some of their challengers could prove to be a threat to the kind of progressive actions that have been taking place. That is one reason why some of the challengers are getting support from some of the old-line machines which strive to hang on to the past.

Voters may look back a few years from now and realize that this judicial contest represented, in part, a fight between the good guys and the not-so-good.

Clarence J. Gittings Jr.

As a youngster growing up in the Baltimore Public Schools Clarence James Gittings Jr. showed early promise that he would become an outstanding educational leader.

When he died this week at the age of 55, he had to his credit a distinguished career in the schools. He started as an elementary teacher, became demonstration supervising teacher, assistant principal, principal, supervisor, administrative assistant to the superintendent and area director, and, until his retirement in 1974, served 10 years as an assistant superintendent.

A broad spectrum of the community attended the Wednesday memorial services and heard speakers attest to his integrity, to his warm and friendly professionlism and describe him as the exceptional individual he was, giving of himself to further the ideals of understanding and cooperation among men of all races, religions and stations and in life.

Superintendent John Crew, speaking for the educational staff, noted he was "beloved by all who were fortunate enough to know him because of his ability to go beyond the externals of rank to seek out in friendliness the person rather than the position. . . ".

It is significant that along with his varied educational career, he took, and found the time to serve on public boards and commissions and to give untiringly of his services in Trinity Baptist Church where funeral services were held, where he was a trustee, clerk and teacher for 43 years.

It was fitting and proper that flags on public schools were at half mast on Wednesday in tribute to this outstanding educational leader.

It will be even more fitting if the school board would name one of its schools in honor of this educator, civic leader and church worker.

Your race handicaps you, brother

Washington report

The apology syndrome among slurred blacks

By Parren J. Mitchell

(Mr. Mitchell represents Maryland's Seventh Congressional Disrrict in the House of Representatives).

In a meeting of Democrats of a House Committee, I was standing in the back of the room when the chairman said, "Where is Parren? I want to hear from him." Before I could reply one of the members in the room said with his heavy southern accent, "Come out of the dark Mr. Mitchell so I can see you."

I immediately answered, unfortunately, using a few cuss words, "Cut deep enough and racism will be revealed." The congressman who made the remark immediately apologized and said, "Mr. Mitchell, I am truly sorry, I did not mean to offend you."

The most important part of this story is that another black congressman immediately apologized for the man who had made the remark. The black congressman said, "Oh! ——is a good guy, you know we didn't mean anything wrong."

—

A candidate for the presidency made some startling statements about "ethnic purity," "black intrusion" and other similar patriotic statements. Eventually the candidate apologized, saying he meant to offend no one. The apology was gracefully done.

The more important part of this story is that even before the candidate apologized, black "leaders" were in full swing, making press, radio and television apologies for the man who made the statement. One of the black "leaders" said to me, "Parren, you know he is a good guy, you know he did not mean anything wrong, you know he doesn't have a racist bone in his body.

—

On April 26, Governor Phillip Noel of Rhode Island, who is chairman of the Democratic National Platform Committee, then speaking about black children who spend their school day in a white school said: "The other 18 hours (e the child) is back in that sweat hole or wherever he comes from with the drunken father and the mother who is out peddling her ass or whatever."

That's a pretty tough statement. Governor Noel has apologized for making the statement.

The more important part of this story is that even before Noel apologized some of the black "leaders" in the Democratic party structure were calling me in Washington to apologize for him. One caller from New York said, "Parren, before you raise any hell about this, I want you to know that I've worked with Governor Noel and he is a good guy; I know he didn't mean to offend any one."

The caller, lowering his voice to a confidential whisper said, "I've even been in his house for drinks."

—

Is there an explanation for this black apology syndrome? I don't know. Is it a result of economic pressures? Is it that the apology by the black man for the white man guarantees the former that he will get one tenth of one per cent of the power the latter has.

Is it because black folks are so basically good that we love everyone, love them enough to apologize for the insults, slurs and castigations they heap upon us?

Listen America, apologize for putting Richard Nixon in the White House. Listen America, apologize for the criminal acts of J. Edgar Hoover. Listen America, apologize for the murder of Fred Hampton.

Now and then — *by g. james fleming*

Carter, Humphrey, Brown, et al

There is something of tragic drama (too serious to be comedy) in what is happening in political America during the presidential primaries. In neither party is every voter sure that the possible nominee for President is the best person that the party or the nation can offer.

It is most clear among the Democrats. Here, Hubert Humphrey, the man held most capable of winning the highest office, the person held in highest esteem by his party and the one with vast experience on every level of government, is not a candidate. He is officially a non-candidate and has refused to enter any of the primaries or to authorize any committees to promote his candidacy or to raise campaign money on his behalf.

He has persisted in this position. But his arguments, all of which are well known, and his reasons for them, are exactly why he should be an actual candidate, why he is the kind of person who should be President.

Of course, at convention time, it may be possible to "draft" the senator (and he is ready, willing and available), but he may also lose out forever, just as Adlai Stevenson, under similar circumstances, lost out.

Humphrey has refused to lead a "Stop Carter" drive—at least, at this time. That leaves Georgia's Jimmy Carter out front, like a winning race horse, with all other entries trailing him.

Then, there is Governor Edmund "Jerry" Brown of California who, like Governor Carter, has no experience in national government or national politics but, also, like Carter, has left a good record wherever he has served.

The present stable of candidates—including "Moe" Udall and "Scoop" Jackson—is as American as apple pie. Perhaps, the American people should not expect any better.

—

KISSINGER AND AFRICA — We earnestly wish that Secretary of State Kissinger's visit to African countries will bearfruit—good fruit in abundance. But, our fingers are crossed. This gesture of U.S. concern for black Africa may be too late.

In fact, most African nations may not see the Kissinger presence as concern for Africa. They may view it purely as America's interest in itself and as part of the years'-long charade of the U.S. zagging whenever or after the Soviet Union zigs.

Present American movement towards an African policy may, rightly, be credited to the fact that the Soviets have now made a foothold for themselves in Angola, through their own weaponry and advisors and, indirectly, through the bodies of Cuban military men.

As this column has said before, whatever the reasons, the Kissinger State Department—under two Presidents—has been most unmindful of African, Caribbean and Latin American nations. It is fair to say it has no policy, except a policy of anti-Communism or anti-Socialism (each term as defined by the U.S. alone). Nearby, the policy sounds more like merely anti-Castroism.

For some time, Africans have been sensitive to the fact that the U.S. was losing a great opportunity to have black Africa "in its corner." Most African seem willing to forget the past when this country supported the colonial powers in their exploitation and oppression of their black subjects.

First, Africans, especially those who read our own Declaration of Independence and-or Thomas Paine, cannot understand our close relations with the Union of South Africa despite its racial policy of apartheid.

Next, the U.S. is considered stingy in its benevolence (including its fiscal and technical aid) to African countries, compared with its post-war aid to European countries.

Further, it is often pointed out, America-sponsored Liberia has, relatively speaking, little to show, in development and modernization, because of its close ties to the U.S. Indeed, one of the the jokes in Africa is that Liberia should have been a real colony all its past years, rather than a protectorate of the U.S.

If the Soviet Union had not started rattling arms in Angola and extending its influence elsewhere in Africa, Kissinger might never have gotten around to a visit to seven, later reduced to six, countries in Africa.

Another measure of the State Department, even in 1976, is the fact that there was no black "top" State Department operative in the Kissinger party that went to Africa. But that is subject for another column.

That work, work, glorious work ethnic

Somehow it has become popular for candidates to espouse rugged individualism and old values, avoiding like the plague any hint of a New Deal or Great Society-type effort to get the jobless back to work.

And it seems that even with the high rate of unemployment, most if not all the blue and white collar workers and business people, who have found themselves in the unemployment compensation lines, feel as Congressman Paul Sarbanes, that getting a "hand-out" is repugnant.

Yet it's their due. That's why there's an Unemployment Compensation fund.

—

Further, most of the Democratic presidential candidates, so busy giving out jobs to those who are "willing" to work, are not leveling with the people who must continue to accept handouts because they are not trained for available jobs; there never will be enough jobs for everyone willing to work, and reducing unemployment to 3 or 4 per cent will still leave millions jobless.

Moreover, family assistance programs have fallen into disrepute. A guaranteed family income is shunned as it it were leprosy, yet many Western, European industrial nations have some type of guaranteed family income.

Making a lot of sense, however, is a Spanish-speaking welfare recipient interviewed in Studs Terkel's book "Working," who says, "There are mothers that work 11, 12 hours a day. We're working for our money. I am working for this check. It is not charity. We are giving some kind of home to these children . . . Why can't a woman just get a check in the mail: Here, this check is for you. Forget welfare. You're a mother who works."

But in order to prevent people from pridefully demanding family income, the politicos have shamed those who can't or are unable to find work, who make below the minimum wage, decrying welfare and "hand-outs," while glorifying work.

And what is so glorious about work as it is viewed by the semi-and unskilled? By paper pushers in the bureaucracy?

Imagine how many people view their jobs with disenchantment, bordering on revulsion!

While cleaning out the den, I found an old Life Magazine — the one with the famous picture of Sammy Davis Jr., hugging Nixon — and it highlighted boredom on the assembly line in a GM Vega plant in Lordstown, Ohio.

"Job boredom," it revealed, "has begun to affect labor union leadership and policy in the auto industry. It plays a growing part in such problems as poor workmanship and absenteism — in some plants, absenteeism now runs as high as 13 per cent compared to 3 per cent a few years ago.

"Strikes were once called mainly on grounds of pay and job security; increasingly discontent with the job itself has become a gut issue.

"For a long time," the article continues, "the fulfilment of high wages (the ability to buy what they built, to join the middle class as consumers) seemed enough . . . Among the new crop of workers are many better educated and less compliant than their parents. For them, pay is not sufficient recompense for a life spent 'on the line,' and though the pressure they exert is still minor, it has been enough to worry management."

—

Politicians in this country have beatified the work ethic. And in the bargain, they have cowered the people — more white than black are on welfare nationwide — into believing there is something sinful, un-American about not working.

Yet the jobs the unskilled usually find are way below poverty level. What then do they prove in starving themselves and their families to be among the throngs who are willing to work?

The hippies, the drop-outs in our society, in communes, the roaming restless runaways are telling us that we must reevaluate the boredom, the persistent aesthetic outlook about work for work's sake.

(Can you believe only 90 years ago, on May 4, four men were hanged, eight labor leaders were framed by policemen as a result of a Chicago rally, the Haymarket massacre, because they demanded an 8-hour day?)

—

Planners and politicians must propose a variety of incentives, leading to greater gratification in life than the young have witnessed in the lives of their elders.

Shorter work weeks. Longer holidays and weekends. Subsistence for those who are unprepared to work at living wage. Across the board family income allowances to help educate and clothe those families whose incomes will never reach parity. Distribution through the Social Security system, taxing those who don't need the money so that the red tape is cut to a minimum.

In a country that can subsidize railroads, Lockheed, farmers, oil companies, foreign coups, CIA secret budgets in the billions, armaments in the trillions, ways must be found to subsidize the most precious commodity of a nation, its people.

Let's stop beating on welfare and unemployment recipients, when their plight may soon encompass wider groups, whose skills will have also become obsolete.

Poet's corner

TO LEE ELDER

I remember Charlie Sifford and Ted Rhodes
They were old travellers on the golfing roads
I like Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player
But for Lee Elder I've said many a silent prayer.

Black youth need heroes that inspire
Not merely just to set the world on fire
Besides we had a minimum of resources
And were not welcomed on lily white golf courses.

But we know that you can't lose them all
You just stay alert, and your eyes on the ball
And victory delayed is a precious thing
For the excellent results that patience brings.

So the Houston Open, now is gone
And to other courses, you'll be moving on
And Lee; you've worked hard, and paid the price
And I'm proud, you hit the ball, real nice.

PAUL D. McALLISTER

What they're reading

Books most often requested at the branches of the Enoch Pratt Free Library this week are listed below. If the one you want is not immediately available, the librarian can suggest another which you might enjoy.

NON-FICTION
HELTER SKELTER, Vincent Bugliosi (HV6533.C2B83)
JUDY, Gerold Frank (ML420.G253.F7)
JOY OF SEX, Alexander Comfort (HQ6.C65 .1972)
WITHOUT FEATHERS, Woody Allen (PS3551. L44W5)
HOW THE GOOD GUYS FINALLY WON, Jimmy Breslin (E861.B73)
STRANGER AT THE PARTY, Helen Lawrenson (PN4874.L28A37)

FICTION
RAGTIME, E. L. Doctorow
LOOKING FOR MR. GOODBAR, Judith Rossner
SHOGUN, James Clavell
CENTENNIAL, James Michener
CLARA REEVE, Leslie Hargrave
BEYOND THE BEDROOM WALL, Larry Wolwode

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)

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).

Young beat — *by larry young*

Open letter to moma and all mothers

Dear Momma,

Please excuse me for not being with you until late Sunday evening. Regretfully, I'm scheduled to be out of town—yes, again—but arrangements have been made by me for you and me to go out to dinner and to the theatre later that evening. This is a special day in our life—Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9.

Oh, before I forget, I hope we'll be able to attend the 4th National Conference of the National Committee on Household Employment, planned for May 28-30, in St. Louis, at the Stouffer's Riverfront Towers.

Household workers from across the nation will be joined by representatives of national and local organizations, including the NAACP, NOW, The Urban League, civil rights, feminist and other activist community groups.

The theme of this year's conference will be "Holding It Together!" which signifies the concept of building strength and unity between NCHE, its affiliates and their organizations.

Emphasis will be placed on alerting the general public and focusing their attention on present needs as well as future concerns of private household employees.

Now I know, despite not having worked for several years, you will nevertheless agree that in this major election year, when workers face severe economic setbacks, it is more important than ever that household employees' voices be heard!

Our good friend, Ms. Carrie King, president of the Maryland Household Technicians, will no doubt be attending, too.

—

Momma, on your special day, I have no greater moments than when I reflect on the greatest Moma in the world—all the good in me, Momma, is because of you. There is a Jewish saying—"God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers."

Reflections of a mother—

—"The mother in her office holds the key of the soul; and it is she who stamps the coin of character and makes the being who would be a savage but for her gentle cares, a Christian man! Then crown her queen of the world." (From an Old Play).

—"Unhappy is the man for whom his own mother has not made all other mothers venerable!"

—"What is wanting," said Napoleon one day to Madame Campan, "in order that the youth of France be well educated?" "Good mothers," was the reply. The Emperor was most forcibly struck with this answer. "Here," said he, "is a system in one word."

—Continuing my reflections on mothers, a beautiful quotation by Washington Irving. "A father may turn his back on his child; brothers and sisters may become inveterate enemies; husbands may desert their wives, wives their husbands. But a mother's love endures through all; in good repute, in bad repute, in the face of the world's condemnation, a mother still loves on, and still hopes that her child may turn from his evil ways, and repent; still she remembers the infant smiles that once filled her bosom with rapture, the merry laugh, the joyful shout of his childhood, the opening promise of his youth; and she can never be brought to think him all unworthy."

—"It is generally admitted, and very frequently proved, that virtue and genius, and all the natural good qualities which men and women possess, are derived from our mothers."

Let Baltimore have good mothers, and she will have good sons and daughters.

—

Momma, "no language can express the power and beauty and heroism and majesty of your mother's love. It shrinks not where I may cower, and grows stronger where I may faint, and over the wastes of worldly fortune sends the radiance of its quenchless fidelity like a star in heaven."

Mothers, Longfellow writes, "Even He that dies for us upon the cross in the last hour, in the unutterable agony of death, was mindful of his mother, as if to teach us that this holy love should be our last wordly thought—the last point of earth from which the soul should take its flight for heaven."

Momma, I love you, first, foremost and forever. I remember the time you gave me the last 50 cents you had in your name for an elementary school activity, as you left home and walked to work some 12 miles away.

I remember all those days you left to work as a domestic so I might continue on with my schooling and involve myself in community activities.

I remember the spankings. I remember our private jokes. . .the secrets we shared. . .the talks we had.

And I remain ever so grateful that on Nov. 25, 1940, I was born your son.

Happy Mother's Day, Momma, and to all mothers.

"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

Uncommitted delegates

Dear AFRO:

Just over a month ago I expressed my concern that voters, by misunderstanding our primary system and not voting for delegates committed to the presidential candidate of their choice, could elect so-called independents who would be in no way bound by that voter's presidential preference.

An example of one such ticket has appeared in the Second Congressional District under the name "United Democratic Convention Team." They would go to the convention uncommitted to either Governor Carter, Governor Brown or Congressman Udall; the three main remaining active contenders for your votes.

There is a complete slate of committed delegate candidates for both Governor and Congressman Udall.

The Brown forces filed too late to select such a slate but most likely will inform their voters of their preference in the delegate vote.

Those individuals have taken the political risk and made a firm commitment as to their presidential preference. They alone merit your delegate votes for they alone will truly reflect your presidential choice.

STEPHEN SIREKIN

Students need assistance

Dear AFRO:

In June of 1976 the National Association of Student Councils is conducting its annual convention in Portland, Oreg.

Because your company is very well known for the generous support you have given to young people who want to work in the public interest for their school and community, I am asking for your support in helping us to be represented in Portland this year.

I'm president of the Student Government Association at Baltimore City College and I'm also president-elect of the Association of Student Councils of Baltimore City and the Maryland Association of Student Councils.

Participating in such programs has been of tremendous value in helping me to understand the leadership qualities that are essential in preparing for my future in law, school and community affairs.

We are busy conducting various projects and programs such as: dances and car washes in order that we may be represented at the National Convention in Portland.

However, the fare is approximately $50 per person, and it will be very difficult for us to raise sufficient funds to send even one representative.

Therefore, I am asking you to assist us in any way possible so that our school and community may be represented.

BERNARD STEWART
Student Government President

Making a Choice

Dear AFRO:

In the coming primary election, Marylanders have two outstanding young men in Joseph Tydings and Paul Sarbanes, seeking the office of U.S. Senate.

I have followed the careers of these two Democrats in Maryland and in the Congress. Additionally, I am familiar with their public records while in office and the kind of leadership each has provided while serving the citizens of Maryland and our country.

After careful thought and consideration of both candidates, it is my sincere judgment that Tydings has the better record in serving all citizens regardless of race, creed or religion.

Like many, I am aware of the "dirty tricks" used by the Nixon Administration and the powerful gun lobby to defeat Tydings in the last election.

Some of these forces are still active now and are making the effort to defeat Tydings. I would hope that "men and women of good will" from all races, will look beyond the lies and innuendoes about this candidate, and vote their conscience in terms of his past record and his thrusts toward the issues which face us in the Seventies.

ISAIAH E. WHITE
Principal
Calvert Education Center

Make it official

The writer's name and address must be included in all Letters to the Baltimore AFRO - AMERICAN.

Those which contain printed or typed names and initials will not be considered.

All letters MUST be signed. Names will be omitted if requested.

The AFRO reserves the right to edit all letters.

Council president

Dear AFRO:

According to the Charter of Baltimore City, "In case of vacancy in the office of mayor by the death or resignation or permanent disqualification, the president of the City Council shall be mayor for the residue of the term for which the mayor was elected. He must possess the qualifications required for mayor of the city."

The president of the City Council is in reality the vice mayor and should be chosen by the voters at large just as the mayor is chosen.

To have the City Council elect from its membership a president of the City Council with the same duties, powers and prerogatives as the present president of the City Council would deprive the people of the right to choose directly the second highest office in the city administration.

JOHN L. BERRY

On feature

Dear AFRO:

We appreciate the feature you carried in the March 27 edition of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper on the Wives Of Fire Fighters. Thank you.

MRS. MILDRED GOODWYN
President
MRS. VERNET WILSON
Corresponding Secretary

ELDER AND MRS. CONWAY GREEN

Salute of the Week

Our honoree this week is Elder Conway Green, who is celebrating his 75th birthday.

Elder Green is founder and pastor of the Christian Community Church of God, 2701 W. Baltimore St.

Born May 10, 1901 in Newport News, Va., he is the only surviving child born to Calvin and Emily Green.

His sisters were Mary, Nancy and Laura Green. Lewis, Henry and Sam Green were his brothers.

—

In 1918, Elder Green married the former Rose Ester Samuels. They moved to Baltimore in 1925 and joined the Church of God, pastored by the late Lightfoot Solomon Michaux.

Elder Green was ordained in 1928 and began preaching on street corners. In the late thirties, Elder Green founded the Church of God which has had four previous locations, 944 W. Fayette St., 928 W. Saratoga St., Fremont Ave. and Waesche Street and 1117 W. Saratoga St.

He attributes his long life to "serving God."

"The greatest thing I can remember in my life," he says, "is when I found God in 1925 and gave him my heart."

★'S AND YOU

ARIES "The Ram" (March 21 - April 20) — Forgive and forget that old insult. You will find things will be much easier for all concerned.

TAURUS "The Bull" (April 21 - May 21) — Prepare for future entertaining. Invite your friends who share in the fun to help.

GEMINI "The Twins" (May 22-June 21) — Some of your ideas are not practical. Concentrate on some new ones.

CANCER "The Crab" (June 22 - July 23) — Plans are being made to expand your career. Start bringing together your scattered belongings.

LEO "The Lion" (July 24 - Aug. 23) — A Sagittarian wants to open the lines of communication. This could be the beginning of a wonderful relationship.

VIRGO "The Virgin" (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23) — Establish priorities with your relatives. Your eagerness to please is endangering your health.

LIBRA "The Balance" (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23) — The information you have now is superficial. If you dig a little deeper, you may strike pay dirt.

SCORPIO "The Scorpion" (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) — Get started on your original ideas. It will increase your prestige.

SAGITTARIUS "The Archer" (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21) — What you have been looking for is now available. Your problem now is how to handle it.

CAPRICORN "The Goat" (Dec. 22 - Jan 20) — Handle your affairs personally. It might not be well to delegate these responsibilities to others.

AQUARIUS "The Water Bearer" (Jan 21 - Feb 19) — An older person is exercising authority. Go along with it to avoid confrontation.

PISCES "The Fish" (Feb. 20 - March 20) — You may do some tearing down, but you will build again on a firmer foundation.

Afro Line

EDITED BY TRUDY STEELE

AFRO-Line is an effective AFRO community service to help you solve problems. You may also report errors in news stories, request corrections and complain and inquire about AFRO news stories and policies.

You need only to write a postcard to AFRO-Line, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203, stating the question you want answered. Include your name, address and telephone number.

QUESTION: I am concerned about a play presented at the school which my child attends. Although the school population is 35 per cent black, only 3 blacks out of 50 students were in the play.

But worse than that, the black students were cast in subservient roles. Our schools are used as a model for writeups all over the country and I would like someone to see just how progressive this system really is.

C.I.P.

ANSWER: The principal of the school in question told AFRO Line: We had quite a number of blacks originally but they just couldn't come to practice. Rehearsals were after school and they had other things which they wanted to do, so they dropped out on their own. The director even solicited for more but they just didn't want to practice.

"As for the subservient role, this was a setting in the early 1907s, and was not designed to belittle anyone. All in all it was very well received by the audience and we have had no complaints from parents or students."

—

QUESTION: I recently had an opportunity to spend a few days working in the library of the Baltimore City Jail. The library is a new project and is painfully short of funds.

Most of the books that have been donated are textbooks, treatises and classics, which in my opinion is very heavy reading for the average inmate.

Don't you think the inmates would welcome donations of sports stories, mysteries, science fiction and light novels?

H.D.C.

ANSWER: A call to the jail revealed that they are indeed in need of this type of reading material. Readers who wish to donate or contribute funds to the growth of this library may send their tax deductible contributions to: Robert Pollard, City Jail Librarian, 401 E. Eager St., Baltimore, Md. 21202.

—

QUESTION: The neighbors in our block have a list of complaints about a family. We would like to contact the person from who they are renting. How do we go about finding the owner of this property?

B.E.

ANSWER: Call the Baltimore City Tax Office at 396-3567.

—

AFRO readers who fail to get help at these numbers are urged to let AFRO-Line know. Call 728-6200.

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 — 383-2700.

CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND — resulting from robberies or assaults — 523-5000.

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

EMERGENCY — housing, heating, light — 234-2172 or 234-2412; after 6 p.m. and weekends, 234-2172, answering service will direct you.

FIRES — 685-1313.

FOOD STAMPS — 234-2413, 234-2751, 234-2763.

HOT LINE — 539-5151 — for abandoned motor vehicles, bulk trash pickup, clogged sewers, dirty alleys and yards, garbage collection, muddy water or water leaks, street lights.

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION — for complaints of discrimination in employment, housing or public accommodation — 383-3680.

INFORMATION — city jail, 396-5211; drug abuse counseling center, 383-2720; legal aid, 539-5340; pension reform, 362-3914; transit and traffic, 396-3049.

MAYORS STATIONS—Govan 396-6084; Greater Homewood, 396-6080; Northwest, 396-0224; Steuart Hill, 396-6207.

POLICE — emergency (day, night, weekends, 222-3333; Community Relations; 396-2710; Homicide, 396-2721.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION — for complaints about phones or gas and electric service — 383-2374.

RAPE CENTER — 366-7273.

RUMOR CONTROL — 837-1188.

SERVICE — ambulance 396-2111; animal removal, 396-0218; defective sidewalk, 396-3168; furnace check, 396-4429; rats, 396-4418.

WELFARE RIGHTS ORG. — 233-4701.

Tell it to Jan

Dear Jan:

I am a mature 17-year-old girl who is in love with a man 26. Do you think this is a good match?

MATURE

Dear Mature:

You are not as mature as you think. If you were, you would know you are no match for a 26-year-old man. I suggest you stick to your own age group.

—

Dear Jan:

My boyfriend and I have been going together for a year and I want to give him a gold ring. I can't see anything wrong with it, but my friends have advised against it. Can you help me make up my mind?

INLOVE

Dear In Love:

One usually thinks of rings when a marriage is contemplated. However, friendship rings are quite popular. But, they are also invitations to trouble. I would forget the ring business and wait until his birthday and give him a little gift if you must give him something.

—

Dear Jan:

I am 18 years old and I have no trouble finding girls. My problem is that I am a little shy and I don't know what to talk about when I am around them.

SHY

Dear Shy:

Why don't you try reading? The information contained on this page alone could keep a conversation going for at least half an hour. Other conversational pieces are the movies, records, sports and hobbies.

Few 'awareness' clubs in county schools

By Diana Spencer

The most logical place to begin in studying Baltimore County youth is the school system of which they are a part. Baltimore County high schools have an extremely small black student population. Only a few more than half the high schools have more than a 1 per cent black student population.

There is a tendency for these black students to segregate themselves. There is security in numbers and strength in unity. A reasonable assumption would be that since these black students are so close there would be a school organization solely designed for them. It so happens that there are black student organizations in only 4 of the 20 Baltimore County high schools.

Most principals of the schools where there are no black student unions said that their schools did not have large enough black populations to warrant such an organization. Many of these principals said that no one had ever approached them with the idea of initiating a black student union.

—

Dr. J. Rupert Neary, principal of Towson Senior High, informed me that, "Towson had a black awareness club two years ago. They had a couple of dances. In fact, it was at one of these dances that I learned how to bump. Interest failed, and the club died out. It can still be reactivated, though, without having to be re-approved."

Mr. James Hackman, principal of Woodlawn Senior, had similar things to say about the black student union. He said that student clubs appear to go through cycles.

Perry Hall and Randallstown Senior High Schools do not have clubs defined on racial terms. Both schools try to resolve any racial problems and promote better relations through human relations clubs.

Mrs. Josephine Alston, a teacher at Perry Hall, sponsors the human relations club. The school is especially proud of the programs she has presented in an effort to get the student body and faculty together.

It appears that the school with the most active black student union, Pikesville, has only 36 black students.

Mr. Garland Brown, a social studies teacher at Pikesville, sponsors the club. He feels that such organizations are important because, "When you have such a small minority, you find that they exert a great deal of social control upon each other. It is necessary to insure the control is positive. This can be done by the expression of positive information."

Of the 36 black students at Pikes. ille, 35 to 20 are actively participating members. White students are also very involved with the club's activities. The club meets at least once a month. It has acted as host to many cultural speakers and is currently planning a trip, possibly to Washington, D.C.

Other schools which have black student unions are Catonsville, Milford Mill and Woodlawn Senior High Schools.

—

Mr. Leib McDonald, principal of Dundalk Senior High, said that the black student union there "promoted black heritage and fostered better understanding." He said that the club died out when Mr. Johnson, the sponsor of the club, left the school. Dundalk Senior High has a 12 per cent black student body.

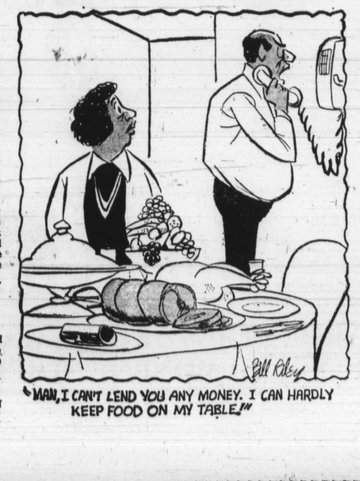
Although Dundalk's black student union failed, their Black Studies Seminar has existed successfully for the past five or six years.

Mr. Fred Goos, a social studies teacher at Dundalk, initiated the program. The class that resulted from his idea was the first of its kind in Baltimore County.

Mr. Goos says that in teaching the course he attempts to capitalize on contemporary black issues and examining little known facts of black history. According to Mr. Goos, "The seminar gives the students a chance to express their heritage, look in-depth at things. They can do concentrations. They can explore their interests a bit. Students appreciate the fact that there is no specific curriculum."

When asked why enrollment for the class has decreased slightly, Mr. Goos explains, "Today, it's harder to get kids together. One part of the answer is that they aren't required to take anything. Also, some of the need has been taken away."

Nowadays — by bill riley



"MAN, I CAN'T LEND YOU ANY MONEY. I CAN HARDLY KEEP FOOD ON MY TABLE."

The quickest way to get on your feet is to miss two car payments.

Ask a woman how she stubbed her toe, and she'll say she walked into a chair. Ask a m[illegible] say someone left [illegible]