Baltimore AFRO-American

OPINION

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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)

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We protest UPI!

For the past month, the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN has run a series of reports on the current wave of brutal black-on-black drug related murders in the Baltimore area.

The murder toll of brothers and sisters killing brothers and sisters is frighteningly high, and for this reason the AFRO has devoted intense coverage to this unprecedented crime wave.

The AFRO first reported the connection between what appeared to be several unrelated acts of violence and the escalating dope gang war before the police investigation was barely off the ground.

This week we learned that the national wire service, United Press International (UPI) has given credit to the Baltimore NEWS-AMERICAN for breaking a story we have been reporting for over a month.

Because this narcotics war has claimed the lives of not only hardened criminals but young women as well — one of whom was a dedicated school teacher, our community has reacted with unprecedented abhorrence to each new assassination.

Each day has brought an outpouring of information from both solid citizens and tough criminals alike. Citizens want this madness to end! Alone among the media, the AFRO has been able to give the city the clearest sense of the horrible proportions of this narcotics war.

Daily media has not seemed to care that black people are killing each other with such abandon. The AFRO, your community newspaper, certainly, cares about every one caught up in this horror, perpetrators and victims alike.

From the outset, we have taken the position that the heroin trade is destructive of black families to the extent that it is genocidal.

We recognize also that in a business society, the heroin trade is one of the few "businesses" (albeit illegal) in which black men and women are able to engage.

The fact that it is a fatal business, devoid of any morality, for those who pursue it, and a fatal business for the addicted population, should tell all of us something about the kind of world in which we are forced to live.

Therefore, we are deeply resentful that UPI, to which we belong, chose to ignore the AFRO's vigorous and compassionate reporting of this rash of brutal senseless murders and credited the **Baltimore News American** instead with breaking the story.

It is always unwise to rely on non-black media to cover news affecting black people.

UPI, after our bitter protest, has changed its original news story to coincide with the facts.

The essential fact is that a newspaper cares about everyone caught up in this awful set of circumstances.

We understand why dope is used, sold and killed for in our community which is why both good citizens and the underworld alike know our news is to be trusted.

UPI — please note!

The caucus and Lee

We understand that members of Maryland's black legislative caucus are meeting with Acting Governor Blair Lee even as you are reading this (Friday, September 16).

Surely the question of Mr. Lee's plans regarding appointments of black Marylanders to key posts in state government is high on the caucus agenda.

Mr. Lee has been no ball of fire in fashioning a state government leadership that includes blacks in anything like proportional numbers.

Or if proportional representation leaves a bad taste with anyone, though we cannot imagine why, there are so many excellent public administrators in our state who just happen to be black that, either way, the governor's hesistancy is puzzling.

We would like to think the Caucus has also urged Mr. Lee to increase the number of black judges to existing vacancies.

Most importantly, we hope the Caucus has vigorously pointed out to Mr. Lee the need for him to press strongly for welfare reform here in Maryland and for increasing the levels of family assistance.

Our sense is that the acting governor is quite conservative on the issue of family assistance and welfare aid in general.

Given the plight of too many black families in this state everything and anything our legislators can do to help Mr. Lee walk the right road is extremely important.

We hope to report to you that their meeting with the acting governor is something both he and the Caucus members found worthwhile.

Washington Report
Will the Bakke case be a giant step

(Mr. Mitchell is a member of the House of Representatives. He represents Maryland's 7th District.)

On October 12, 1977 the U.S. Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in the case of The Regents of the University of California vs. Allan Bakke.

The Bakke case will test whether affirmative-action programs — aimed at improving educational and job opportunities for blacks and other minorities—are constitutional.

The decision of the majority of these men will have a profound impact opon the quality of life for black Americans for the remainder of this century. Such a decision could mark a significant turning point as far as the Court's commitment to the social policy of equal access to the resources and opportunities of American society.

If preferential admission is discriminatory, it would follow logically that all "affirmative action" programs designed to benefit racial minorities are discriminatory.

The effect on the black community would be disastrous.

The core of the issue of equal opportunity is made explicit in the race for jobs, admission to professional schools, admission to skilled trade unions and decent housing, when one contestant comes to the starting line suffering from a terminal case of benign neglect and the other contestant comes to the starting line in an optimum condition, which has been well nurtured by better schools, upward-motivating advantages and a sponsor who just happens to be the judge of the race.

If the Supreme Court rules that preferential admission is discriminatory, then the Court will in effect exclude blacks and other minorities from law schools, medical schools and other professional schools because of a test score, despite overwhelming evidence that blacks and other minorities admitted under special admission policies completed the course work and became able members of the legal and medical profession.

States maintain law and medical schools to serve public interest and public interest is not defined by a person's ability to pass an entrance examination. The public interest is served when all communities of the state are provided with trained lawyers, doctors and other professional persons.

Affirmative action is the one civil rights tool that has begun to make real progress in overcoming centuries of racially discriminating policies and practices in this country.

The medical profession has been a primary example of the practice of racism. About 12 per cent of this nation's population is black but for the past 40 years the percentage of its black physicians has remained below two per cent.

In 1969 to 70, only 2.8 per cent of the nation's medical students were black. Around this time, affirmative admissions programs in medical schools were initiated. By 1975, the percentage of black medical students had climbed to 6.8 per cent.

Preferential treatment is not a new phenomenon in America, but has been with us for a very long time and has a rich tradition.

Every institution has consistently maintained a policy of bringing in its own kind—whether it is a Wall Street law firm recruiting only from the Ivy League Schools, or a government agency where top positions are filled by friends and associates of the top executives at the agency, or a textile mill where skilled jobs are passed on to the relatives and friends of those occupying the jobs.

White males in America control all or practically all of the economic and educational resources in this country.

The ability to discriminate implies power and that is why "reserve discrimination" is really a fantasy, unless we are willing to imagine that racism has vanished and the majority has become self destructive.

The case of "reverse discrimination" is simply an attempt by white conservatives to obstruct and thwart the progress of blacks and other minorities in America, with the assistance of the highest court in the land.

Although the black community threw all its weight behind the dreams and aspirations of Presidential Candidate Jimmy Carter, President Jimmy Carter is unwilling to return the favor and throw all the weight of the Justice Department behind the dreams and aspirations of black america.

Therefore, black america is forced to stand alone before the U.S. Supreme Court to hear its ruling on "what happens to a dream deferred?"

Now and then — by G. James Fleming
A university is never built

A university is never built overnight.

Harvard and the University of Pennsylvania (among others) started as mere academies—high schools—and, by evolution and accretion, over the centuries, became the great universities they are. Howard University was once also more high school than college and, up to the early 1930's, it was only a shadow of what it is today. The University of Maryland was once popularly called "the cow college."

Some universities include medical and law schools, but an institution may be a university without having either.

There are institutions, both under the name of "college" and "university," which offer a variety of master degree programs.

Bryn Mawr College, for example, grants the master of social work, a professional degree, and the doctor of philosophy degree, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), which ranks with the highest institutions of learning, does so without carrying "university" in its name.

A place of learning may give itself the name "university" as its corporate, official name, but never become a university in the sense that it has a number of "schools" and "colleges" and a near-endless roster of programs.

Securing the name "university" is only a first step.

In the case of Morgan State University, the legislature which granted the new name, the Morgan family and the general public know the name change was only the beginning. They know, also, that Morgan's constituency was not contending for a cosmetic university or for just a re-printing of letterheads.

Money is the most important second step in university-building. In the case of Morgan these funds come mainly from the state government, but also from the federal government and the private sector, in addition to student fees.

Right away, a new university needs an infusion of funds for new books for its library, books geared to doctoral and specialized studies, it needs additional audio-visual facilities and, most important of all, a core of distinguished faculty must be retained and enlarged.

Money is needed to strengthen the research arm of a new university, always for the natural sciences, but now for the social sciences and business, in the light of present-day emphasis on computerized investigation.

It is not unfair to Maryland to say our state has no such commitment to Morgan State University. A little more in dollars? Yes, but a Number One priority? No.

It would be of tremendous help if the "friends" of Morgan who inquire "when are you going to start the Ph.D. programs?" wrote letters to their legislators and the governor expressing their concern for more state support for Morgan.

It would be more than helpful if the alumni, as association or individuals, paid much more than lip service in insisting on more support from the state, and in giving more themselves. The few have done much, the majority little.

Morgan State itself has been rather timid in promoting and merchandising its products, its offerings and its potentials. One reason may be it is ever mindful of high academic standards and has no intention of becoming a degree mill. Nor does it wish to be in the position of a major Tennessee university which not so long ago lost a lawsuit in which the judge ruled the university's doctoral program in management was "hastily embarked on, vague and ill-defined." The court awarded the suing doctoral candidates $30,000 in damages.

The Black Legislative Caucus, which led the legislative campaign to convert Morgan into a university, remains interested in increasing the resources of the university and in making it a real university.

Since granting Morgan its university status in 1975, the state has given the institution an extra $150,000 in the 1977-78 budget for advanced degree planning.

The university in the meantime is waiting for approval from the State Board for Higher Education to begin developing the following new graduate courses:

Economics, M.A.;
Educational Administration - Supervision, D.Ed. and
Institutional Research and Development Administration, M.S.

These courses may be approved for implementation by next September. The university has also submitted "letters of intent" to offer 10 other new courses in following years, including the Ph.D. degree in history, in planning, development, administration, and evaluation, and in four business-oriented fields.

The doctor of education degree (D.Ed.) is earmarked for implementation in 1980.

It takes about three years for any idea to reach the degree-granting stage at any public institutions, more or less along these lines in Maryland:

1. A faculty (departmental) committee must draw up and justify a proposal.

2. Proposal (in the case of Morgan) next is submitted to its Graduate Council for evaluation and to insure it meets the high standards of graduate studies.

3. The proposal is then submitted to the president for his review.

4. The proposal next goes to the Regents Committee on Academic and Student Affairs.

5. The proposal is presented to the full Board of Regents with recommendations, pro or con, and often with the presentation of persons prepared to defend the proposal.

6. If accepted up to this point, the proposal is submitted to the State Board for Higher Education for its approval, including determination that the new offering does not duplicate significantly a program in another institution, or one previously submitted.

7. If approved at (6), then the new program is placed in the university's budget, where it must gain approval of the governor, the fiscal analyst of the legislature, the finance committees of the Senate and the House of Delegates and, finally, the full legislature. It must be noted, however, that approval by the legislature means approval for the next year's budget, in the very nature of budget management.

Only after all these steps have been taken successfully can a public institution begin to search for faculty and buy equipment, if such is needed.

Morgan State University has the makings of becoming a university in fact—a people-serving, innovative institution of high standards—if and as the state and national governments give it the necessary support, and if and as the university's group leadership—president, faculty and students—rises to its opportunities.

Even with adequate dollar support, however, history seems to say that there are no "instant" universities which are also substantial universities.

(Editor's Note—Dr. Fleming, a faculty member for 19 years at Morgan State University. He served as a member of its Board of Visitors and is now chairman of its Board of Regents. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the College of the Virgin Islands.)

A little about a lot — by Madeline W. Murphy
Those closed doors must open!

When one looks at "Washington Behind Closed Doors," it is easy to conclude that although the characters have changed, the script remains the same.

The prevailing theme within this expose about corruption in government is that the barriers inherent in separation of the powers of government, the executive, legislative and judicial, have either been toppled, or been forcibly removed.

This is a phenomenon that pervades all government from the local to the national, because of this drive for absolute power. Absolute power that has bred (and will continue to breed) absolute corruption.

There is also the preoccupation with revenge that leaves little room for long range planning, for open government—sunshine laws strictly obeyed, if you will—and cooperative relationships between the people who are governed and those who govern.

So often so-called servants of the people, heads of cities, states and the nation, have become imperial rulers, who feel that by some divine right they have unlimited executive privilege.

It is a chilling reality to discover how they circumvent their servile status and the law makers by using money, cronyism and patronage to keep their friends; blackmail terrorism and spying to annihilate their enemies to retain control over the three branches of government.

In addition, the fourth estate, the press and mass media, has a vested interest in seeing the ruler keeps his power. Consequently, the press, especially the powerful dailies, follows the party line until it becomes uncomfortable with a particular race of people, or clan or religion that gains too much power.

Suddenly appearing on the scene are harassment, leaks of damaging information, investigations and then the heralding of sponsored successors, now armed to topple the ruler.

Recently on the local level, a revelation that the city now has some eight or more (no one knows how many) private corporations that attend to the public's business, is a concrete example of how the line between the legislative and executive branch of government has been completely obliterated.

For although these so-called private non - profit organizations rape us of our tax money, none is answerable to Civil Service or City Council in hiring and firing, in appointing directors, in program planning or in decision making.

(Once only the Sixth District, the "silent Sixth" made few waves in objecting to the mayor's dictates, but against this background one wonders now if all of City Council has become the Mayor's rubber stamp.)

Private corporations that we know about are: The Charles Center-Inner Harbor Management Corp., $517,000; Constellation Management, Inc., $75,000; The Baltimore Economic Development Corporation $788,000; Op-Sail Ltd., $200,000; 100 N. Hollday Inc., no budget yet; Baltimore Performing Arts Center (Morris Mechanic Theater). $240,000; Baltimore Promotion Council, $125,000. A nice slush fund of $2 million for the mayor and his cronies to make trips to Europe, among other things.

Furthermore these private corporations are free from the rules and regulations, checks and balances that are normally required of city agencies.

Under the guise of making it easier and more flexible to conduct the public's business, these corporations are in the prime position to develop a parallel government that will operate in absentia without public scrutiny, by people who don't have to live in Baltimore, who are merely concerned about the business opportunities of the city, but not in anyway affected by the hunger, unemployment and growing disenchantment of the majority of blacks living in the city.

Moreover, if this state of affairs is allowed to continue, the future success of a black mayoral candidate will merely be an overblown exercise in political puppetry—big business's Charlie McCarthy.

And so we must take seriously the move by Mayor William Donald Schaefer, the mastermind of control over the city, and his ambition to become governor.

For he is confident that those in these and other corporations will gladly aid and abet his further manipulations to usurp any and all impending black political power by the citizens of Baltimore.

Footnote: With the reluctance of President Carter to get behind H. R. 50—the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Bill—and with the slow action of Congress, not only will we need coalitions of all who are concerned about unemployment, but we shall also need emergency food kitchens in public and private agencies all over the city to feed the hungry, as a short term stop-gap to confront the coming hard winter.

Then maybe the unemployed, seeing tangible benefits, will be able and willing to support demonstrations. A trade-off is the first rule of community organization. How soon we forget!

New found friends

Do not underestimate our voting strength.

Blair Lee and Francis Burch do not discount us. Early in their quest for the governor's seat they are wooing black Marylanders with a passion that should make us blush if not wonder.

Acting Governor Lee, a descendant of one of the state's founding families, this week hugely enjoyed himself visiting a black family on the inner city's Carey Street and partaking in a fried chicken dinner.

Mr. Lee is the front runner in the governor's race, but he is obviously taking no chances.

Not to be outdone, in fact taking a giant leap, Attorney General Burch has joined minority contractors in their action against the federal government for holding back on money for black businesses and workers.

Mr. Burch is obviously of the mind that while chicken may taste good, money buys the chicken.

We now anxiously await Steny Hoyer, Walter Orlinsky, Harry Hughes and all the other aspirants for the prize. Imaginative politicians all, we know they will be making as many friends among the black electorate as they can.

Caution, however, should be our watchword. Before any of us goes off the deep end, we better keep in mind that the bottom line in the governor's race is just who can best deliver on our collective interests.

It is way too early to tell.

"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

Baltimore AFRO-American

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Criminal injustice system

Dear AFRO:

Recent newspaper articles have reported that the latest figures indicate the continuing growth of unemployment among young blacks even as it is beginning to decline for the comparable white age group. Another article noted Carter's continuing procrastination in coming seriously to grips with urban problems. Yet another pointed to the state's refusal to heed a neighborhoods protest against another prison in the city.

We believe all these issues are connected and play a real part in the growing crime rate that is permeating all our neighborhoods. We abhor the callousness and unimaginativeness of those in authority in dealing with it.

Perhaps the time is ripe for people again to unite, as happened in the Civil Rights era, so the political and economic establishment will again be forced to heed the voice of the little people whose lives are being so critically affected.

Those in authority must be forced to look beyond more police and more prisons as a "solution." We believe this "solution" is, in fact, responsible for creating a whole new, larger population of hardened criminals while depriving us of some of our best potential future leaders. Something must be done.

During the last few months, as a number of us have met and discussed the many facets and ramifications of our criminal injustice system, we have become increasingly aware of the fact that there are a number of organized and unorganized clusters of citizens throughout the city who are also concerned with this same issue.

However, few seem to be aware of each other's existence, and, operating in isolation from one another, all tend to feel powerless and frustrated.

We believe we could all gain in strength and effectiveness if we could come together, share our concerns, reinforce each other's efforts and speak in a united voice.

We hope you share our excitement at the thought of creating a new power force made up of persons who have really been caught up in and touched by this "injustice system."

If you are interested and want more information, please phone 358-6973 or 747-1924 or 664-2289 or 566-2345. Don't give up if you don't reach us on the first attempt.

A Group of Concerned Citizens
6104 Frederick Rd.

Post Office discrimination

Dear AFRO:

Over the past two years, in the Baltimore Post Office, it has become increasingly apparent this office has ignored the policy of the Regional (Philadelphia, Pa.) Equal Employment Opportunity office in practicing racial discrimination in dealing with blacks, especially in the area of attendance.

Excessive use of sick leave or, as they prefer to call it now, unscheduled leave, is definitely not the same for blacks as it is for whites.

The local and regional branches of the EEO have been made aware not only by myself but also by others, that the Baltimore Post Office freely discriminates racially in the area of attendance and that the same can only be accomplished by the region, ultimately tolerating and condoning such practices.

Everyone can understand that while the entire Postal Service is trying to reduce its work force, certainly it is unjust not resort to blatant racial discrimination practices used by the Baltimore Post Office to achieve that end.

While other federal government officials are being investigated for wrongdoings, the Senate Committee should thoroughly investigate the racial discrimination practices in the Baltimore Post Office and seriously consider abolishing the EEO in its entirety and placing all complaints in the area of the same under the jurisdiction of the Civil Service Commission.

NAME WITHHELD
UPON REQUEST

Young beat — by Larry Young
Health and the law

(Mr. Young is a member of the House of Delegates. He represents Baltimore's 38th District.)

The poor, black and minority communities in America have often received poor, inadequate and inaccessible health services.

Three black children die at birth for every white infant. Four black mothers die in childbirth for every white maternal death.

Fifteen black middle-aged persons suffer from hypertension for each one white person.

Minority people experience comparable higher incidence of cancer, venereal disease and other acute infections.

Thus, blacks and other minorities are the principal victims of limited access to preventive care and comprehensive health services. As a result, they suffer needless, prolonged illness and die earlier.

The average black male does not live to collect his Social Security. The white male generally does.

The black population suffers and dies from heart disease, hypertension and strokes at earlier ages and in greater portion than the majority of the population.

America has the technical competence and the resources to achieve good health (or all segments of the population. Americans as a whole must muster the determination and will to assure every American access to comprehensive quality health care.

With the advent of computerization of medical records, a growing concern exists that the confidentiality of personal medical records is endangered. Certain medical diagnoses, such as high blood pressure, sickle cell anemia and others, may deprive poor black and minority persons of employment and cause them to pay unnecessarily high insurance premiums.

Safeguards must be instituted to maintain the confidentiality of medical and other health records.

The Baltimore City House Delegation (to the Maryland General Assembly) Sub-Committee on Health will hold its third annual public hearing on health issues to solicit constituents' opinions concerning which legislation must be considered by the 1978 General Assembly. That session convenes January 11, 1978, in Annapolis, Maryland.

The public hearing is an effective sounding board. Representatives from the City Department of Health, State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Blue Cross, major hospitals, Local 1199P, Central Maryland Health System Agency, Community Health Council are invited to come and speak out.

The public hearing will be: Wednesday, September 21, Highway Administration Auditorium, 200 W. Preston St. (State Office Buildings Complex), Baltimore. The time: 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Are you concerned about Medicaid? Mental Health? Alcoholism? Health Insurance? 50 cents Co-pay? Nursing Homes? Physically Handicapped? Emergency Room Cost? Health Services in general? If you are, you will want to attend the public hearing Wednesday evening, September 21, 7:30 p.m.

This is yet another opportunity for you, the AFRO reader, to have an important voice in the state and city dialogue which will be continuing on health services that you want and need.

Maryland black history

—Among the first settlers of Maryland were two blacks, John Price and Mathias DeSousa who arrived in 1634.

—Benjamin Banneker was the first black to receive a presidential appointment. Banneker, a resident of Ellicott City, Md., was appointed by President George Washington to a commission which decided street plans for Washington, D.C.

—The fourth antislavery society in the U.S. was formed in Maryland in 1788. It was called the Maryland Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery and the Relief of Poor Negroes and Other Unlawfully Held in Bondage.

—The first book published by a black Marylander was "A Dialogue Between a Virginian and an African Minister," written by the Rev. Daniel Coker and published in 1810.

—Henry Blair from the Eastern Shore was granted the first patent issued by the U.S. Office of Patents to a black for a seed planter he invented in 1834.

—Joshua Johnston of Baltimore was the first American black to win recognition as a portrait painter. Johnston painted members of slaveholding families of Baltimore from 1789 to 1825.

—Mother Mary Lange and Father Joubert founded the first order of black nuns at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore. The Order is the Oblate Sisters of Providence. Mother Mary Lange was a refugee from Santa Domingo.

—The St. Francis Academy, the first parochial school for black girls was founded in Baltimore by the Oblate Sisters of Providence in 1829.

—Several civil rights groups in Maryland predate the founding of the NAACP. Among them were the Brotherhood of Liberty, organized by Rev. Harvey Johnson, and the Equal Right League, founded by Hezekiah Grice in 1830.

—The first blood shed by Union soldiers in the Civil War was in Baltimore in 1861 when Pennsylvania soldiers were fired upon. Nicholas Biddle was hit in the skirmish.

—Frederick Douglass was the first black to officially call upon the President of the U.S. in 1863. Douglass met with President Lincoln to discuss apparent discrimination against black troops in the Civil War, their treatment by Confederates, their enlistment as soldiers and remedies for these injustices.

—The first battle hymn for black soldiers during the Civil War was "They Look Like Men of War." The song originated among the troops of the Ninth United States Regiment camped at Benedict, Md. during the winter of 1863 to 1864. The regiment was under the command of General Samuel Chapman Armstrong who later founded Hampton Institute in Virginia.

—Harriet Tubman, a runaway slave and native of Dorchester County, freed 300 slaves prior to the Civil War as a conductor of the Underground Railroad.

MSU's Billingsley tours Philippines

PART II:

(Editor's Note: This is the second and final installment of an article by Dr. Andrew Billingsley, president of Morgan State University, on his recent trip to Southeast Asia. Billingsley was one of four college presidents and the only black to be sent by the American Council on Education to visit universities in five Southeast Asian countries).

President, Morgan State University.

The second leg of my Southeast Asian trip took me to the educational institutions in the Philippines.

Accompanied by Paul Bragdon, president of Reed College in Portland, Ore., I spent two weeks in visiting the universities while the other two college presidents visited colleges in Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

These three countries along with the Philippines and Thailand have banned together to form the Association of the East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

My visits took place at the same time as the heads of these countries were holding their second annual summit meeting.

It has been 30 years since I was in the city of Manila, and many changes have occurred in that country. The most striking changes have occurred in the field of higher education.

The universities were closed down for a time during the war. St. Thomas University, one of the oldest universities in this hemisphere (founded in 1611) was used to house prisoners of war. Today St. Thomas has more than 35,000 students in a full range of professional schools and colleges.

St. Thomas is symptomatic of the rapid growth in higher education. The Philippines, has one of the highest college enrollments of any nation in the world. Of the half million youth who graduate from high school each year, more than 80 per cent go on to some form of higher education.

"The Filipino people," said one of the college presidents, "place extremely high value on education. A family would sell its farm and its home, if necessary, in order to send its children to college. This is due partly to the high value the Spanish placed on learning and the high value the Americans placed on open access to college."

At present, there are more than 600 colleges and universities in the nation, more than 90 per cent of which are under private auspices. They range in size from the massive University of the East, with more than 65,000 students enrolled in its five schools and colleges to the small, but distinctive 3,000 student-body Ateneo University of Manila. Both schools are under Catholic auspices, the religion of nearly 90 per cent of the Filipinos.

The most prestigious and most comprehensive university in the country is the publicly supported University of the Philippines with its 25,000 student body.

The university has a full range of schools, colleges and research institutes. The world famous Rice Research Institute is located on one of its campuses.

Despite the phenomenal growth in higher education which makes the Philippines a net exporter of skilled brainpower in several fields, the universities (with a generous assist from students) have become acutely aware that higher education has been largely confined to the middle and upper classes. Thus a new program of "democratization of admissions" has been decreed by the government on the recommendation of the educators.

The program reserves increasing numbers of places in the universities to students fro low income and rural families. The lowest income students pay no tuition whatever. Other students pay two graduated tuitions.

The vast increases in this tuition were protested strenuously by student groups despite the ban on student activism under martial law. As a consequence, the government has ordered a postponement and rollback in all tuition increases until a study has been made as to the necessity of these sensitive increases.

In addition to expanding educational opportunity to low income families other priorities include improving the quality of instruction through faculty development and seeking a closer tie between university education and the economic and cultural development needs of the nation.

Salute of Week

ARTHUR SHERRL HOLLOMAN

(AFRO readers are invited to submit names of persons or organizations to be used in this column. Write Salute of the Week, P. O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Maryland 21203).

"From past experiences, I find it more profitable to express my feelings on paper."

These are the words of Arthur Sherrl Holloman, poet, lyricist, musician and artist.

Mr. Holloman inherited his interest in music from his mother, a vocalist, who taught him the keyboard when he was a child.

One of 13 children born to Jesse and Mary Goodman Holloman, Art is a graduate of Merganthaler, class of 1971. He completed a three-and-a-half year tour of duty in the U.S. Air Force as an illustrator.

At present, Art is working as a statistical clerk at the Social Security Administration (SSA) but he plans to attend Towson University in January, where he will major in communications.

"I enjoy working at SSA but I have been interested in writing since I was 10 years old. My writings which include poems and short stories are my own philosophies and experiences in life. I therefore would like to pursue studies which would enable me to make a career of writing.

"My poem, 'Selfishness' best describes me."

No time for living
No time to spare
Concentration in one direction
With no time to care.

Caring for the latest craves
Is just a temporary wave
That carries temporary happiness

In its temporary way.
But by the same token

A goal that's too far fetched
Can make you lonely and distressed

It involves a lot of pressure
But you don't want to explode

Until you destination allows you to unload

Your happiness, your luxuries, your accomplishments.

And all you have done,
You did it alone.
Without a single soul
To call you own.
So you're leaving here
With a road untaken,

And as time goes on, you'll feel your mistake

And your true label reveals itself.

Where to call

COMPLAINTS

Of discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical or mental disability or tension in your community, call COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION — 396-3141 or 396-3150 — of questionable business practices, CONSUMER PROTECTION, 383-3656 — on food, drugs, cosmetics, medical devices, radiological products; call FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION — 462-4499 — discrimination in employment, housing or public accommodation, HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION — 383-3680 — about phones or gas and electric services, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION — 383-2374

EMERGENCIES

AMBULANCE — 396-1111
FIRE DEPARTMENT — 685-1313
POLICE EMERGENCY — 222-3333.
HOUSING, HEATING LIGHT — 234-2172 or 234-2412

Smile

A very tired gentleman tried to check into the only hotel in town. The desk clerk insisted there were no vacancies.

The gentleman asked, "If President Carter came in now, would you have a room for him?

"Of course," replied the desk clerk.

"Very well," the salesman rejoined. "President Carter can't make it. Let me have his room."

Nowadays

"SURE I KNOW THE VALUE OF A DOLLAR, DAD--THAT'S WHY I ALWAYS ASK FOR MORE THAN ONE."

A'S AND YOU

ARIES "The Ram" (March 21-April 20) — Refrain from discussing your personal problems with anyone who will listen. Although they may appear interested, they are extremely bored.

TAURUS "The Bull" (April 21-May 21) — If a meaningful life is what you seek, why not join a church of your choice and become involved in its activities.

GEMINI "The Twins" (May 22-June 21) — Great damage can occur as a result of downgrading another. Make every effort to help them have a healthy opinion of themselves.

CANCER "The Crab" (June 22-July 23) — Why stay in the same old rut? A new job and new friends will enable you to shake the shackles of oppression.

LEO "The Lion" (July 24-Aug. 23) — Arrive at a compromise with a loved one who disagrees with you. The consequences will be happy ones even though you both will have to bend a little.

VIRGO "The Virgin" (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) — A change is not advised at this time. The grass is no greener elsewhere, so be content with what you have.

LIBRA "The Balance" (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) — The troubles you have will fade away. Additional help arrives and it will be smooth sailing from here on.

SCORPIO "The Scorpion" (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — This is the time to purchase new items and improve your living conditions. A change of residence is also indicated.

SAGITTARIUS "The Archer" (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Your pursuit of a lifetime interest will be successful.

CAPRICORN "The Goat" (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — Now that your financial problems have been solved and you are feeling very youthful, take time to be nice to yourself.

AQUARIUS "The Water Bearer" (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Learn to appreciate what you already have. Don't gamble your present security by seeking new excitement.

PISCES "The Fish" (Feb. 20-March 20) — To have a good command of words is in your favor. However to be most effective you must act out your good wishes.