Baltimore Afro-American

OPINION

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Gray's grief

Dr. C. Vernon Gray, the Morgan State political science prof, who had a moment of ill-deserved attention when the daily papers tried to say his service on the governor's reapportionment commission was self-serving, according to them, because Gray wanted part of the city of Columbia re-districted to give him a voting base. Also according to them.

Well, as it turns out, Dr. Gray, had he hoped to be a candidate from a restructured section of Howard County, finds it all uphill from here on out.

The final reapportionment plan as it concerns that part of Howard County that would be most favorable to Gray as a possible candidate, leaves him out in the cold.

Gray's strength is neutralized under the new plan. Had he been a candidate, the city of Columbia and near reaches, would have been ideal, but now Columbia voting lines merge with the outback Howard County where whites often are a hostile majority.

The grief here is that Dr. Gray was muddied with media questions about conflict of interests in his role as reapportionment commissioner and double grief came when the commission upon which he served made completely certain Gray would have no place to run viably had he at some later time decided to enter the political fray.

We call that 'double dirty.'

Politics seldom is pretty and we have no counsel for Dr. Gray save perhaps to move on back in town.

City Re-apportionment

Nothing changes for our community under the latest state legislative district reapportionment plan.

Black neighborhoods will be in four districts, predominately white communities, four also and State Sen. Julian Lapides is left in the running so to speak with a corridor that is 50-50 black and white.

The Lapides area, shaped a bit strangely, can henceforth be known as the Lapides "L."

This latest plan is not so much compromise as insult. To us!

Numerically, five predominately black voting districts would have been more than fair given our population majority.

While Lapides "L" saves a legislator with a generally progressive record, it also speaks to a future when a candidate less liberal than Julian Lapides gains the ascendancy on the "L."

Then it will be five white districts pure and simple and for all our political Progress, here we will have been punished as in the kids' street game of 'Red Light'-forced to take a giant step backwards.

Under the redistricting proposal, we also do not like the position in which Rep. Parren Mitchell finds himself and we wonder why the 4th District (Prince George's County) now under the domination of arch-conservative Majorie Holt is permitted to expand to a rural white portion of southeastern Howard County.

This offsets the population of P.G. County of blacks just beyond the Washington, DC line.

All of these arrangements or rearrangements will be the subject of a public hearing on Dec. 1.

If you do not like the way this deal is going down, show up and make your feelings known.

Thanksgiving 1981

Well, now that the Thanksgiving turkey has been baked and mostly gone, we hope no reader gets indigestion when we report there are, as of T-day, 28 shopping days until Christmas.

This is a count-down that holds children enthralled, but anually keeps hard-working parents on the verge or beyond of bankruptcy.

We have not yet made our annual survey of toys, but from what we have gleaned video computer-push button games are in vogue and cost a trillion dollars each.

Well, this might be a slight exaggeration, but when we watch the zombie-like state watchers of computer games approach and the condition of near frenzy players of such games lose themselves, we know a lot of bucks are going to be shelled out for games that have football players beep-beeping up and down fields, space invaders hurtling through space, explosions, crashes (for slow-reflexed players).

These and other electronic marvel toys are going to really damage the family coffers.

While Christmas is ever a welcome and joyous holiday of the spirit, for the working family grappling with the current economy (or lack of it) Christmas at the secular level is going to be tough.

But try explaining Reaganomics to a child during the holiday season.

For that matter, try explaining Reaganomics to President Ronald himself. According to David Stockman, it is nothing like it seems.

As for the holiday just past, in dispirited times as these, what we should be most thankful for is the life God has given us to live, if additionally we enjoy good health we are doubly blessed.

Eyewitness News' cataracts

When an institution is black-managed, the daily media is swift to pounce on the most minute mistakes.

When a really big gaffe looms, say a missing million bucks, at stake, all the stops are let loose.

Channel 13TV gleefully, it seemed to us, rushed on the air breathlessly to report several days ago, that the Urban Services Agency was missing a million dollars from its fuel aid fund.

Less cheerfully, the video journalists had to later retract this report because the million dollars supposedly missing was a paper mistake.

Urban Services had not ripped off a million dollars.

The city auditor who did the figuring and announced the shortage just could not count.

City Councilman Michael Mitchell was correct to ask the auditor in question be summarily fired.

USA Director Lenwood Ivey is understandably angry. He told the AFRO that when he explained to Channel 13 that USA was blameless they would not listen to him.

Eyewitness News seems to have a case of ethnic cataracts.

Learn, baby, learn

Dear AFRO:

If President Ronald Reagan's budget cuts and the overall attitude of his administration - as perceived by blacks - has done anything, it has generated a need to get back into the classroom and learn-baby-learn.

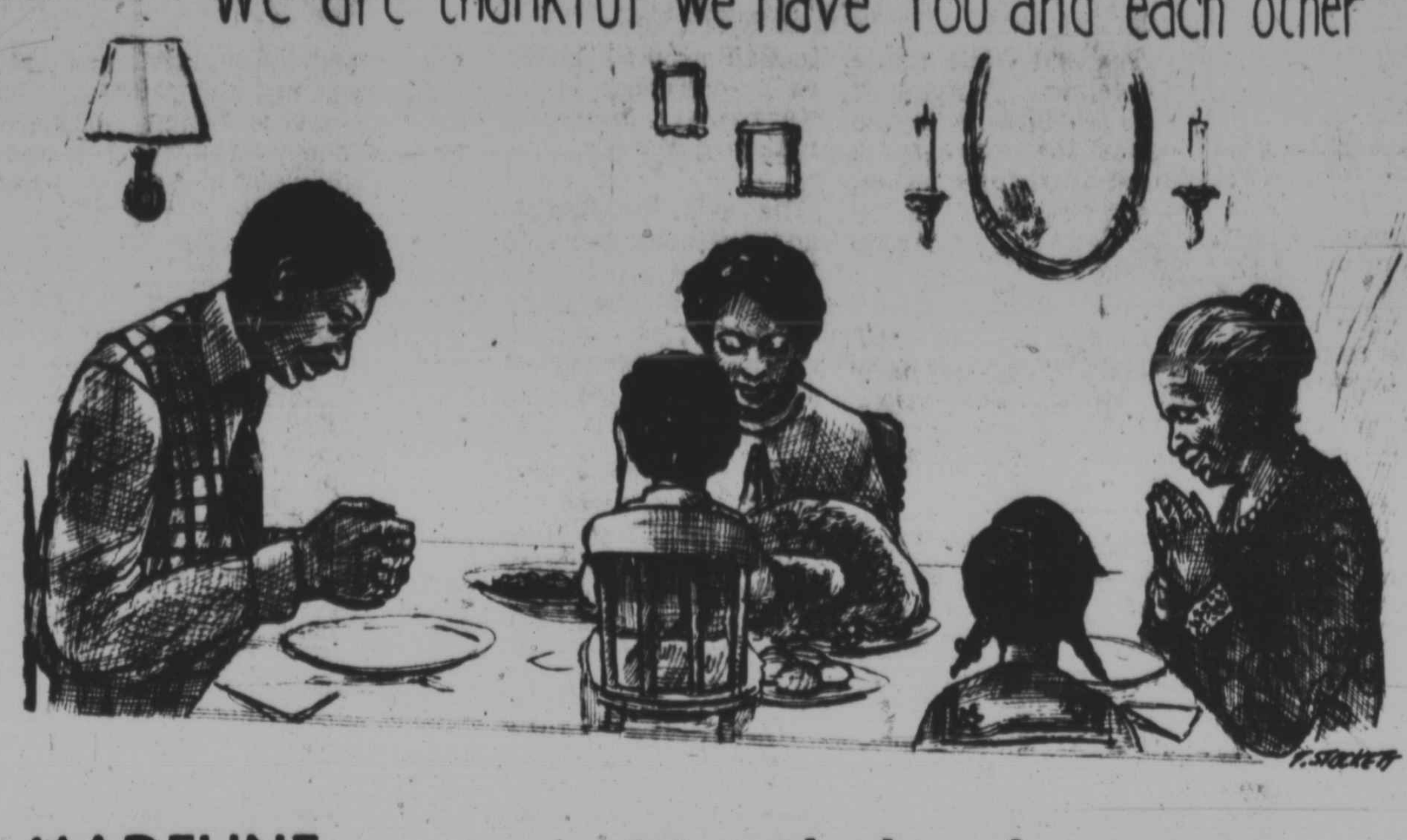
Everyday, I see kids boarding busses, loaded down with books and other scholastic paraphernalia, bent upon improving their grades. Making more than passing grades seems to be the order of the day.

So between the budget cuts, computerization and the need to seriously compete in the future job market, this has made us all too aware that we, as a people, have to keep up or be kept out, simply because we may not be up on the necessary skills that will allow us to fully compete for our share of the pie.

Perhaps some benefits and good for blacks will come out of the administration yet, by making us more aware of our potential sooner, rather than later.

GERALDINE O. HUFF

"We are thankful we have You and each other"



MADELINE MURPHY

Until the lowest advance

At a time when the city school system is in a quandry about what to do with teachers who have full-sized and over-sized classrooms; when there is a marked reduction in the number of high school graduates who can read, write and figure, perhaps it would be instructive to hear the remarks of a woman who has taught in the Morgan College system 47 years, having spent three years prior to that as a student at then Morgan State College.

In October, many of her colleagues, students, whose lives she had touched in a very special way, paid homage to her at a retirement banquet.

In her response, there were many moving passages that not only showed her insight, but her caring nature in regard to a profession she honored.

It was Dr. Jean F. Turpin, professor of English at Morgan State University, who said the following:

"Today, a student who elects in the secondary school to pursue a terminal program in automotive shopwork, often changes his mind about seeking a job in the workaday world and enters a local institution of higher education, and it is more likely to be academic than agricultural or technical in emphasis.

"With the advent of the open admissions policy, a large part of the Morgan population has changed. This means any student who has been granted a diploma from a secondary school may have the opportunity to enter the local state college.

"From several points of view this may be a good thing. However, too often, these students have been shaped by something other than success.

"These students are often the product of some, if not all, of the following conditions:

1. They are the products of the double shift system, which arrangement not all schools in the United States have abandoned.
2. They are the products of automatic promotion. And it is not an unknown phenomenon for a parent to insist upon his child's promotion.
3. They have been graduated from schools that issue very few books to take home for study.
4. Likewise, they have known very little about regular and long home assignments.
5. I am not going to mention the trauma of purchasing books and dealing with long and regular assignments at the college level.
6. Many of these students have lived with the experience of seeing their fathers out of work and their older brothers home from Vietnam and out of work.
7. They have seen their fathers leave home, not because they wanted to, but in order to make it easier for their wives to enter the relief programs.
8. Many of these students are members of families that have migrated from states which provide even fewer dollars for education than does Maryland.

"In summary, these students' deficiencies are not just economic or educational. Along the way, they have acquired a number of emotional scars. For them and their families to taste of the American dream had been to bite into a bitter fruit.

"These situations challenge the conventional assumptions about who should have access to the college and assumptions about what material to teach and how to present it.

"Some instructors have found this new, raw, rude breed easy to back off from. Indeed, one is inclined to step aside and meditate upon Marcel Proust's **Remembrance of Things Past.**

"And the reason is that these students have arrived in great numbers, and they appear not to have come to improve themselves, but to maintain firmly their own ways of being late, unprepared and defensive.

"This condition causes conscientious instructors to discuss frequently the subject of preparation for instructions. Some aristocrats of the old school speak disparagingly of methods courses. Other people, however, admit promptly and openly they need to examine additional approaches for reaching this new student the university has opened its doors to.

"Professional educators must recognize in order to serve these students effectively, and by other than trial and error procedures, they need not a book of recipes for teaching, but the knowledge the psychology of the learning process provides.

"The professional educator should take the time to explore some studies in the analysis of human behavior. Professional educators would do well to buttress their thorough knowledge of subject matter with strategies for accelerating the progress of the inner city student who has entered the urban university.

"Instructors who deliberately employ a number of modalities for reaching students and use modalities that are appropriate to the student, to the content, and to the inductive process more than the deductive approach, and who lead students in the development of critical thinking skills will be preparing youth to survive in the new world order.

"And those instructors who help all students forward, not just those who dress a certain way or represent certain families, or those of certain races or colors, know that no one makes lasting progress until the lowest also advance."

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These gems of wisdom are only a part of Dr. Turpin's response to the accolades sent her way. But as one public school educator said, "Would that these ideals, these concepts, these insights began in kindergarten. Perhaps then, we might see that Johnny could read, could write, could figure in preparation for entrance into college."

While it is understandable teachers fight for smaller class size, for more textbooks, more pay, after all, it is really the heart of a good teacher that makes the difference between success and failure; it is, after all, the belief "No man is an island."

LETTERS

Thank God for the AFRO

Dear AFRO:

It is really true, "you know when you read the AFRO." I want to personally thank the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers for what they have done in my crusade against the criminal element in our area.

After we formed the Coalition on Crime, and met to launch the fight against lawlessness, the major dailies put the story in a small, insignificant area of the news. Only the AFRO-AMERICAN had the courage and concern to put the report of the meeting on PAGE ONE.

The AFRO knows the feelings of the people. They are in touch with those of us who work in the inner-city and are truly concerned about the needs and hopes of black people.

It is not popular to speak against the criminals who commit violent street crimes when you are a black newspaper, serving the black community, and the majority of those who commit violent street crimes also are black

The AFRO cares about the black community and those who suffer from violent street crime are black. I thank God for the AFRO, because they speak against injustice no matter who commits the injustice.

Since the AFRO ran its lead story "Are local politicians soft on crime" the effects have been fantastic. The governor now has a crime program. The mayor, States' Attorney, the County Executive of Baltimore County, the Attorney General of Maryland, and even a few black elected officials suddenly have become interested in crime.

Now you know who reads the AFRO. Keep up the good work. It takes courage and guts, but if you do not stand up for something, you will fall for anything.

ST. GEORGE I.B. CROSSE

I have went home one of best

Dear AFRO:

Madeline Murphy's Nov. 21, column, "I have 'went' home," is one of her very best. I concur 100 percent with her insightful assessment.

Murphy's column also is refreshing. Indeed, it is appropriate for her to begin the column with the historical reference to former superintendent of public instruction for Baltimore City Public Schools, Dr. Roland N. Patterson, Sr.

With all pardons to Mother Jones, Murphy with her pen, in a Harriet Tubman's style is truly "fight(ing) like hell for the living."

DR. GWENDOLYN J. COOKE

Do you have a nickle?

Dear AFRO:

I had left the Rite-Aid Pharmacy on my way home, when a sad-eyed little boy walked up to me and said, "Miss, do you have a nickle?"

I asked, what do you want with a nickle, as we walked together. He said, "I want to buy a pear." I told him a pear costs more than a nickle and that you can't buy anything with a nickle anymore. He was silent.

I told him to come with me and we went into a fruit store on the corner. I told the little boy he could have three pears as I paid the lady for them.

He looked up at me with those big, brown eyes with a tiny sparkle in them and said thanks.

Those three pears could possibly have been his one and only meal for that day.

From the look of his pants and worn over tennis, I think it could have been.

There are a lot of children needing nickles for pears. Mr. Reagan, you are starving our children.

VERNONICA JOHNSON

PARREN MITCHELL

Reagan betrayed his troops

A Conference committee made up of U.S. Representatives and U.S. Senators worked around the clock for almost 72 hours to put together a continuing resolution.

This resolution would have provided approximately $428 billion to fund such agencies as the Departments of Interior, Labor, Health and Human Services, Defense, Education, H.U.D., and others.

Throughout the 72 hours, President Reagan, clearly dictated to the conferees what he would accept in the resolution. Senator Howard Baker was the conduit between the conferees and the White House.

Congressman Robert Michel, was the conduit for the House of Representatives.

Reagan even sent his discredited Director of the Office of Management and Budget, David Stockman, to make certain the President got everything he wanted. Stockman advised the Republican conferees in the wee hours of the morning the resolution was acceptable.

So, all the Republicans signed their names to the resolution and went home for a much needed rest.

On Sunday, Nov. 22, the final draft of the continuing resolution was before the House of Representatives. I had not planned to vote for, and did not vote for the resolution because it cut almost an additional $7 billion from such domestic programs as Health, Education, and Labor, which already had been slashed viciously, while leaving a bloated military budget of $197 billion in place.

Just before the vote, Reagan dropped the bomb: He would veto the resolution because it was too costly. Upon leaving this message, absolute consternation prevailed among the House Republicans.

The Republican leader, Robert Michel, looked as if someone had hit him over the head with a two-by-four. Congressman Sylvio Conte, the ranking Republican on the conference committee, was so enraged his face became a vivid red, and the cords of this throat looked as if they might burst.

Congressman Jamie Whitten, of Mississippi, a conservative, who has almost always sought compromise with Reagan, was so furious he almost bellowed through his speech about the separation of power. But it was the Republican loyalist that Reagan betrayed.

The big question is why did he betray them? He knew there would be enough votes to approve his veto, so was this action taken so Reagan could show his complete mastery over the Congress?

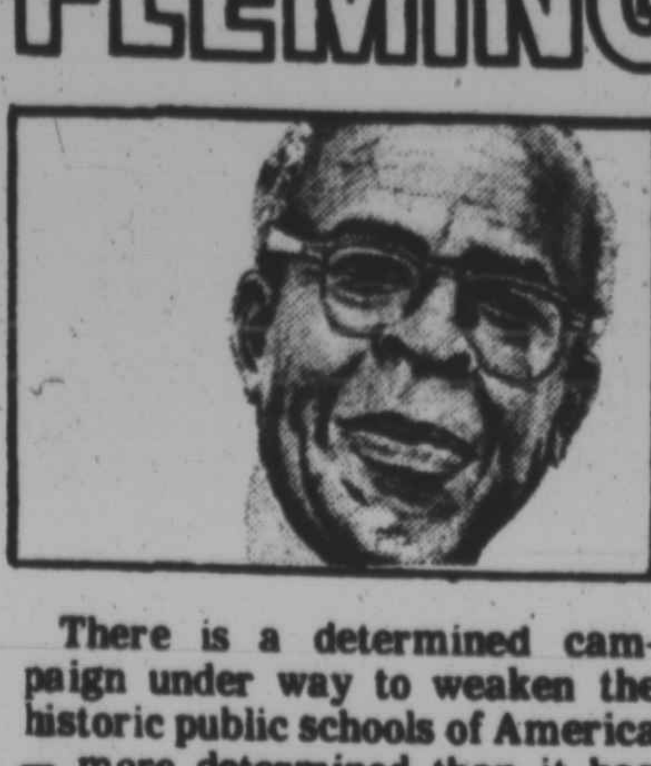
Did Reagan betray them, so as to dilute the power of the Republican leadership in the Congress, thus demonstrating all Republican power was vested in him? Did he betray them because he, like Richard M. Nixon, is an arrogant egotist and therefore cannot be trusted?

In the Aftermath of this mess, Reagan announced 400,000 federal employees would be laid off, without pay, because until a resolution is passed, no agency of government can spend any money.

Reagan, callous and cynical, will step on these "non-essential government personnel" as if they were ants. Apparently their temporary fears and or suffering will not move him.

The Congress is a strange place. Its members have long memories, and its members always seek revenge for public humiliation. I think an awful lot of Republicans are going to remember the day when their Republican President betrayed them.

G. JAMES FLEMING



Public schools seen suffering

There is a determined campaign under way to weaken the historic public schools of America — more determined than it has ever been before. If this drive succeeds eventually only those children, the least educable and the poorest, would be left for the public schools—schools with fewer tools and services.

The present emphasis is not on direct governmental aid for private schools — direct aid which has been deemed unconstitutional. The new approach is to legalize federal tuition tax credits, allowed to parents of chidren who are in non-public schools.

We have no quarrel with tax credits, as such, if the deficit-strapped nation can afford them. What frightens us is the rhetoric and the arguments being used by many of the supporters to justify their claims for such special treatment.

We are not even making any issue, at this time, of the fact many, perhaps most, of the new wave of private schools - euphoniously called "Christian" schools - were conceived and started as a way of boycotting desegregated public schools.

What bothers us is the present campaign of governmental aid to children attending private schools always carries with it, openly or subtly, attacks on the public school system of the country. Even those who should know better, often join in this "bad-mouthing" and seem willing to throw out the baby with the bath water.

Any school system, such as the American public school system, which must serve and be ready to serve the rank and file of the people—without discrimination based on class, economic station, nationality background, or previous condition—is bound to be different from those systems which are permitted to screen out or expel the poor, the mentally minimal, those different to discipline and those from limited families.

Indeed, one reason the public schools have had certain difficulties and the private schools notable success—is the Private schools can rid themselves of those children who find it difficult to learn or in any other way do not fit. Not so the public schools.

And, where do the boys and girls - young men and young women - go who are dumped by private schools?

They go, by law-some say they are "dumped"-into the public schools. Nevertheless, out of these people-centered schools, down the years, have come the backbone and much of the leadership of the nation's institutions and the nation itself—in peace as well as in war.

There is room in our populous, multi-religious, multi-racial, economically stratified land for the establishment and existence of different and differing types of schools and other educational instituions.

The prestigious prep schools and the parochial schools of all denominations have played a significant part in the upward mobility of the American society. Together, they have converted the wilderness that was, segmented by mountains and rivers, and under several flags, into the America that is. But so, too, have the public schools.

This country has become great as an industrial and commercial society, because of its commitment to free, or majorly free, public education—essentially open to all, from the cradle to the grave.

While millions of European immigrants, deficient in our language, joined black and white native Americans in conquering the frontiers, extending the railroads, and building a great agricultural complex; it was access to free public schools that enabled the children and grandchildren of these immigrants to become solid citizens of their communities and to contribute mightily in every field of human endeavor.

Where publicly supported education has had flaws, such as discrimination against women and blacks, efforts were undertaken to correct them—from local school board to Supreme Court—so overwhelmingly important has education been regarded by the bulk of Americans.

One of the freedoms in the United States is the freedom for the individual citizen to pay for the "extras"—even at some sacrifice. The benefits of small classes, a preferred philosophy, a particular religion; these are extras.

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All the enemies of public schools are not "those people" outside the schools. They are found, also, wherever legislators and members of county and city councils starve public schools; wherever taxpayers refuse to support quality education; wherever school boards and school superintendents are satisfied with unteachably large classes; wherever parents are callous about their role in the schooling of their children.

Teachers, often encouraged by their unions, also do a disservice to public schools where they are only clock-watchers; where they seldom open a class-related book between classes; where they have lost a sense of mission; and in too many cases, where they continue in the classroom, "dragging around," as one admitted waiting only for retirement day, but not really teaching.

The free public school system, open to all, is the cornerstone of our democracy. We must fight to maintain it, to strengthen it where it is weak, and to prevent anyone or any group from making it the unwanted child of American education or of American democracy.

Indeed, we must strive to make our public schools as good and effective as the best private schools.

Tony Brown's Journal

The Voting Rights Act: Is truth being told?

There is a new and crucial dimension to the Voting Rights Act. It is the Reagan Administration's position on the Voting Rights Act, rather than the civil rights legislation itself.

The backers of the liberal House version called the President's position qualified and lukewarm. One White House source said a meeting with black liberal leaders ended in agreement on the essential elements of this centerpiece of civil rights legislation.

Later, the public campaign was launched by these very same people to discredit the administration, the aide explained.

In a meeting with myself and 10 other black journalists, President Reagan hinted as much.

"There seems to be some confusion about me and my position on this. And I have said the Voting Rights Act is the most sacred right of free men and women. It's the crown jewel of our American liberties and we will not see its luster diminished.

"And for that reason, I have approved the idea of a 10-year extension of the present Voting Rights Act which has proven, I think, its effectiveness and it has been a good piece of legislation that did a remarkable job," the President said.

In the interest of clarity, it seems the best thing for those of us at the closed meeting to do, is to share with our readers and viewers exactly what was told by two cabinet members: Attorney General William French Smith and Edwin Meese III, Counselor to the President.

John Procope, President of the National Newspaper Publisher's Association: Exactly what's the Administration's decision on the Voting Rights Act? There seemed to be equivocation last Friday with respect to the intent clause and the bailout provision.

Civil Rights groups feel that that particular position will cripple the Act.

Attorney General Smith: Perhaps I should answer that by relating a little history. You may recall, about three or four months ago, the President asked me to review this whole question of the Civil Rights Act, how it had operated in the past, its history and its successes and failures and so on. And we did that, and we did that in three stages.

The first stage was to review the whole background, the whole history, and to consider areas where there had been complaints or criticisms and comments or suggestions, and what have you. That was really, I guess you'd say, more of a factual inquiry than anything else.

Now what the President has done is not confused in any sense. It is only confused because some have seen to make it that way. What the President has done is to accept the uniform and unanimous recommendation of every civil rights group that we talked to: Namely, to support the Act as is without change for 10 years.

In addition, he has made the bilingual requirement coextensive in terms of time. And that is his position, it is the position that has been stated.

There is no confusion about it. It is out front, it is simple and it is exactly in accordance with the recommendation of every single civil rights organization that we talked to during the entire period. That's his position.

Procope: You're saying he would not support a version of a bill that called for more liberal bailout provisions.

Attorney General Smith: Well, now, in addition to that — that's his basic position: extend the Civil Rights Act for 10 years. Now, he also has said, in addition to that, that he would accept a fair and realistic bailout provision.

Now, bailout provisions are very—they sound simple; they're actually quite complicated. At least they can become quite complicated. But he has said that if Congress sees fit to develop a fair and realistic bailout provision, that he will accept that.

Meese: Let me say this. We are not interested in changing the criteria for the bailout. We still want—you have to change it somehow from the present law, just because the present law historically doesn't make sense. There have to be some technical changes in it anyway, which I'm sure you understand.

Attorney General Smith: The President's statement was really quite clear on that. He came out, as I said, for extension as is, which was the civil rights groups position. He made that very clear and then commented about the bailout and I find it difficult to see how that can be construed either as watering down anything.

Tony Brown: Number one, I am as confused now as I was when I came in on Voting Rights. Maybe I have a very simple mind and I don't know all the sections as you and John Procope do but, number one, what really is at issue?

If you are supporting extension of the previous Voting Rights Act, why are we asking these questions and why are these stories being circulated in the press that you're not?

Meese: I think that's a very nice question.

Brown: All right, number two: and after you answer that part of the question, are you prepared to overwhelmingly, explicitly, clarify these ambiguous questions, I guess that would relate to section 2 and section 5, and three, will the President use his enormous persuasive powers for this Voting Rights Act as he did for AWACS and for his budget cuts?

Meese: Yes, I think the President is going to do everything possible to get the Voting Rights Act through.

But the following week, Vernon Jordan, a liberal leader, used the editorial page of the New York Times to tell us otherwise.

"When is an endorsement not an endorsement? The answer is: when President Reagan backs extension of the Voting Rights Act of 1965."

Either Jordan knows something the rest of us do not — or somebody is just misleading the public.

TONY BROWN'S JOURNAL, the television series, is shown every Saturday, on WBAL-TV (11), at 2 p.m.

For all we know

Lots of little facts good holiday reading

By Elizabeth M. Oliver
City Editor

REVIVAL of the Baltimore Branch of the Association for the study of Afro - American Life and History is in the making and vitally so since the 1982 convention is scheduled for here with over 3,000 persons attending.

The 67th national meeting of the organization is set for October, 1982 when all the distinguished black historians will gather in Baltimore — the historians you have only heard about and never expect to meet — like Dr. John Hope Franklin, some 1,500 black scholars associated with the highest colleges like Yale and Harvard.

THE 66TH ANNUAL SESSION in Philadelphia dealt in part with writing articles for publication, black publishers and book stores, vital resources for the black community: black history and genealogy; themes for teaching African and Afro - American studies.

As Dr. Samuel Banks reports, "These topics, among others, are not simply intellectual exercises, but contain potent recommendations to help 31 million black Americans achieve social justice and economic - political parity in our nation."

THIS IS THE WAY the Other People do it and preserve their history for over 1,000 years (and leave us out). We consistently prefer to pull covers over our heads and deny everything black.

FOR YOUR participation, support and cooperation in the Baltimore Branch Association for the Study of Afro - American Life and History, contact Dr. Banks, 396 - 1833; Dr. Gossie H. Hudson, professor of History, Morgan State University or Dr. Elizabeth M. Oliver, 685 - 2366.

ALEX HALEY

ALEX HALEY the most famous author on this planet today, was guest of honor of the Howard County Young Peoples Travel Club last Sunday. (More in photos and story next week).

The superb biography in the children's program book revealed some facts little known — that Haley was wed to Juliette Collins in 1964 and the couple has one daughter. He has two other children by a previous marriage.

IN HIS TALK to the youngsters he spoke of one of the Haley children, a son, who pictured the world's many races **NOT** as a melting pot, but as a tossed salad with many ingredients (RACES).

ALTHOUGH you pour over a dressing and flip the salad up, each tomato, cucumber, carrot, etc (RACE) keeps its own identity, yet remains a part of the whole. NICE, ain't?

CONSTANT CARE

CHOCK full of great wisdom and the little facts you love to read is Dr. Harvey Webb's Constant Care Newsletter by Editor Marion S. Sjodin and Associate Linda Bowie - Govan.

WHENEVER I get a copy I read and read with delight.

STOP BY Constant Care Community Health Center, 1501 Division St., get one, and become acquainted with the infinite benefits of this health provider for all people. Whatever your illness (or income) you can get expert treatment there.

NOTES

SLEEP replenishes and restores, brings meaningful dreams, gives a blessed relief from trouble and care.

THERE ARE several important points to remember here.

FIRST, too much sleep is weakening, and second, not enough sleep is also weakening, and causes irritability, disorientation, poor concentration and bad judgement. Moderation is obviously the key.

ONE NIGHT'S SLEEP is plenty to restore days of sleep deprivation. When the hostages returned home, they did not sleep for a week. Conversely, it is impossible to keep a "sleep reserve."

The best way to prepare for a stressful day, is not necessarily to go to bed early, but to have your house in order, your bath taken, your clothes all laid out, and all irregularities anticipated and planned for.

DREAMING IS HEALING

Dreaming is essential to mental health. Dreams sort out trivia and restore balance to our lives. Sometimes they give us creative ideas.

Artists, musicians, and mathematicians often get inspiration from dreams.

DREAMS can also point to trouble spots in our personalities which we need to work on.

LOOK AT YOUR DREAMS as a valuable resource which enables you to come out of yourself and see yourself the way others see you.

Put your dream to work by keeping a dream notebook beside your bed every night. When you wake up from a dream, immediately write down everything you can remember about it in your dream notebook. Do this faithfully for a month.

Then review all your material and see if there is a recurring theme, place or person. If you find you have a persistent unfulfilled desire like riding a horse, dancing in the snow, or rolling in the grass, try to do that sometime.

IF YOU KEEP dreaming about the same person, go visit that person. And if, in your dreams, you are always rushing, too late, hopelessly lost, or failing miserably, try to isolate the anxieties in your life that produce such dreams.

YOUR DREAMS can add a whole new dimension to your life if you remember them. Do it and have fun.

BUY WISELY

BUY ON SALE. Watch the newspaper ads for specials. Don't buy anything that is not a special. Shop at more than one store for sale items.

KNOW what things cost. Some foods, like peanut butter, have a reputation for being cheapest when they aren't anymore. There may also be times when the steak on sale costs less than the hamburger or the peanut butter. So be sure to check, so you don't waste your money.

STAY OUT of corner grocery stores. They may be convenient, but prices are way out of line.

TAKE MAXIMUM advantage of food stamps and WIC vouchers if you have them.

KEEP A COUPON DRAWER. Use Constant Care's Coupon Exchange; the box is on the counter at the WIC Desk downstairs.

You can present these coupons right along with your food stamps for a savings of maybe $5 a week or even more. If you buy a sale item with a coupon, you pay even less.

Some stores redeem coupons at double face value. Don't neglect this tiresome, but sure - fire way to save. Keep telling yourself that coupons are money in your pocket.

Wadell Smothers

Robert Webb

Rosa Miller

Wanda Jones

Thanksgiving blessings are told

What will you be most thankful for on Thanksgiving Day?

The AFRO asked 10 people at random in Richmond this question. Here are their answers.

Rosa Miller, housewife: "My mother, my father, my husband and just living is good, and I can't leave my kids out. I plan on giving my mother and father an anniversary dinner on Thanksgiving Day. They have been married [illegible] years."

Wadell Smothers, lab technician: "First, for living and for being able to continue my college education. I'm in my sixth year. I have my first degree in psychology and I'm working on a B.S. in chemistry along with a masters in Rehabilitation Counseling."

Donna Irving, college student: "Living and being with my family. Living is the most important of it all. I don't think one day should be set aside to be thankful, it should be like that every day."

Robert Webb, retired: "That I'm living and alive for one [illegible]. And I hope that everyone [illegible] have a nice Thanksgiving [illegible] well being."

Elroy Huggins, student: "For the poor children that don't have anything to eat, the churches should get together some can goods and money and give it to them. I'll be thankful for God to bring me the day."

Father Lloyd Stephenson, priest: "My life, the ability to live and breathe. I think we set aside certain days to make extraordinary that which we do ordinarily to give thanks. Ritual is important, celebration is important to enrich people's lives. And even in the midst of sorrow, people can find opportunities and [illegible] to say [illegible]."

Terrace Gary, [illegible] "My [illegible] thankful for what I have [illegible] plan to invite some people for dinner and just eat."

Wanda Jones, nursing student: "Thank my father for living because he has cancer. And my health."

Elroy Huggins

Terrace Gary

Donna Irving

Lloyd Stephenson