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OPINION

The time to register is now

Since the election of Harold Washington as the democratic candidate for mayor of Chicago, black voters have felt an inner glow— the kind that comes with the feeling of having accomplished a job well done.

Among the statistics circulated following this stunning victory in Chicago are those which indicate over 200,000 blacks registered to vote in a single year. Further than that, better than 67 of all registered black voters turned out on election day to cast their ballots.

Now it's our turn.

The primary election in Baltimore City will be held on September 13—just six months away. Already battle lines are being drawn as the juggling for strategic position ensues. It is expected that most of the splintering of support will coalesce so that a concerted, united front can be fielded.

This is the lesson of Chicago.

Baltimoreans have already had a taste of what can happen when black voters register—then turn out at the polls. The victory of Kurt Schmoke serves as an example.

But this was only the beginning. The horizons are unlimited— if black voting strength assumes its proper proportion. We are pledged to support every effort to enlarge black voting strength.

And the time is now.

The NAACP which is usually in the forefront of such voter registration drives, is once again picking up the cudgel. The national organization has pledged to concentrate its forces on voter registration drives in 20 states — Maryland included.

The Baltimore chapter has scheduled a meeting March 24 at 26 W. 25th St. to finalize plans for the 1983 Voter Block Model Program. In 1981, according to Urban League figures, there were 179,036 black registered voters.

This from a total of 225,933 people eligible to vote.

In 1981, the turnout at the polls was 33 percent. In 1982, it was almost 60 percent. A lot of the civic groups of the city have made plans to concentrate on getting people to register, and indeed it is expected that a major effort will be undertaken.

But, you really don't have to wait until these organizations swing into action. On any business day, registrations are open at the offices of the Board of Elections on Fayette and Gay Sts. In addition, all branches of the Enoch Pratt Library has forms for registration. All that is necessary is to fill out the form, and mail it in to the address given.

The rallying cry that erupted following the last election should be a motivating factor in the black struggle for freedom: "The sleeping giant has awakened!"

He must not be allowed to go back to sleep. Registration to vote is a MUST!!

The Solomon Act is a barrier to educational power

By Clarence W. Hunter

When I turned eighteen and the Vietnam War had reached its zenith, I had to march down to the U.S. Selective Service office and register for the draft.

Those were turbulent times for everyone. Although then President Nixon had started pulling troops out the year before, Cambodia was invaded three months before my birthday and four students at Kent State University were shot and killed by National Guardsmen just two months before my eighteenth year.

And the possibility of going to war scared the hell out of me.

There's no war right now but draft registration is back. Eighteen year olds have to march down to their Selective Service office and register like before so the government "can have a pool of names" which to pull from should there be a war. Not many liked the idea so the government came up with a twist to see that they had the names.

One of them is called the Solomon Act.

In all honesty I did not pay too much attention to the legislation when it was introduced by Rep. Gerald Solomon of New York. But when President Reagan signed it into law last September I knew there was going to be trouble.

The Solomon Act requires males applying for any type of federal student aid to disclose whether they have registered for the draft and prohibiting them from receiving any aid until they've done so.

It's a cheap law and unless it's overturned would apply to student loans for the 1983-84 school year.

Going to college is a tough proposition for anybody in these uncertain economic times. There has been a war raging between the Congress and the Reagan Administration over the question of student aid and several university presidents have gone on record that if President Reagan succeeds in getting such aid as the Pell Grants, the SEOG program and the government's portion of the National Student Defense Loan program, over 70 percent of their student population might as well give it up.

And this law is not going to make things any easier. Not only is it unconstitutional and discriminatory, it's aimed at the very people who need the financial aid — the minorities and the low income persons.

Social Security reform?

Parren J. MITCHELL

Last week the U.S House of Representatives passed H.R. 1900, the so-called Social Security Reform Act. The Senate may act on this bill before this column is published.

I hope that the Senate acts more wisely on this issue than did the U.S. House of Representatives. Passage of H.R. 1900 by the House, in my opinion, was a mistake.

During the course of the debate on the Bill, I addressed the House against the measure. The following is a part of my statement which sets forth my concerns with legislation.

"Mr. Mitchell of Maryland, Mr. Speaker. I rise in opposition to H.R. 1900, 'To assure the solvency of the Social Security Trust Funds, to reform the medicare reimbursement of hospitals, to extend the Federal supplemental compensation program, and for other purposes.'

While some contend that this package represents the sole alternative to the bankruptcy of the Social Security System, I am concerned that other avenues, which will not penalize certain groups, should receive more attention and consideration by the House Ways and Means Committee.

The package before you has been opposed by business organizations, senior citizens, and federal workers, to name a few. Many self-employed individuals across the country are also opposed to the specific recommendation which will raise their Social Security tax rates.

I certainly share the concern that we must move to ensure the solvency of the Social Security System. However, I cannot see the feasibility of creating further burdens for the elderly by directing the delay of cost-of-living adjustments due in July 1983 for six months.

This is such a such recommendation contained in the measure before us today. Ironically, many of the people affected by this adjustment are on fixed incomes which hardly keep pace with inflation.

To delay the critical cost of living adjustments is to add to the existing burdens of excessive health care costs, housing costs, and others which must be borne particularly by the elderly.

I would also submit that our self-employed individuals are being unjustly penalized under H.R. 1900. Once again, we are burdening our small businesses and individual entrepreneurs who are so vital to any hopes of an economic recovery.

Most of these individuals and businesses are currently operating close to the margin of survival under present economic ills.

The proposal to raise the Social Security tax rates paid by these persons is dangerous and might render them totally incapable of sustaining legitimate operations.

How we can impose this burden is beyond my comprehension.

Mr. Speaker, the many federal workers, who have visited and written my office, confirm that the provision in H.R. 1900, which would extend coverage under the Social Security system to all newly hired Federal Government employees (including the Postal Service), is unwanted and unsound.

They share my concern that this move would severely drain the assets of the current Civil Service Retirement System.

With the enactment of this proposal, newly-hired federal workers would no longer be paying into the present retirement system; due to the fact that contributions into the system from current employees are used to pay the benefits of current retirees.

There is danger that the assets would gradually be depleted and exhausted in approximately 20 years.

This threat to federal workers is accompanied by directions for pension benefit reductions as proposed by the President. How much more can we shortchange federal workers?

In the last two years, they have lagged further and further behind their private sector counterparts as health and retirement benefits have been cut, and as the gap between federal and private sector pay has nearly doubled.

It is sad that we must observe that our civil servants are seeking other types of job opportunities, and our young people are totally ignoring the public sector as offering stable employment or equitable salaries.

Mr. Speaker, I must mention that, When evaluating the modesty and fairness in asking everyone affected to sacrifice, we must be very careful.

An additional "sacrifice" for a 65-year-old retired worker on a fixed income may mean the fine line between survival and complete defeat.

A "modest" adjustment for a family attempting to provide the necessities for their children might force a choice between mortgage payments and college educations.

We cannot, in good conscience ask our federal workers, and low and moderate income citizens to disproportionately bear the brunt for all of the nation's economic ills.

"The package before you is the epitome of forcing such a sacrifice, and I urge its defeat."

A drastic reduction of wasteful military spending coupled with real pressure to close the multitude of tax loopholes which permit giant corporations in this country to pay little if any tax, would guarantee the solvency of the Social Security System.

Letters

Senator Welcome a lady of class

Dear AFRO:

As an elected representative who retired from the work at Annapolis, I continue to watch performances in the legislature with the insight of a veteran whose perception is sharpened by sixteen years of participation due to a generous vote of confidence by the citizens.

I am prompted by a sense of nostalgia to muse over what once was. Business goes on as it always will, but I know that something must be missing.

The place has lost the magic of some colorful and noteworthy contributors. To name one, Senator Verda F. Welcome.

I shared her career, her very brilliant career. I am proud that I was her contemporary at Annapolis. Her level of public service brought her into an unexplored world.

She cut a path through hostile territory beyond the perception of her race, and outside its comprehension. She stood the horrors of persecution by an implacable enemy.

She faced the agony of defeat, chilled under exclusion, felt the arrow of derision.

I cannot count the ways!

The enemy diminished himself; for she walked resolutely, chest forward repelling all efforts at denigration. To her everlasting credit she walked in loveliness with imperturbable composure.

We owe her a debt. It is not given to us to know what she has done, for we are not omniscient.

Her accomplishments bear witness through maturity, unexcelled professionalism, and statesmanship. I can attest to her womanhood. I proudly announce that she never brought anyone embarrassment.

Senator Verda F. Welcome is a lady of class! Her unparalleled record stands!

LENA KING LEE
Former member, Maryland House of Delegates

Urban League supports Cabinet post

Dear AFRO:

The Baltimore Urban League is fully supportive of the establishment of a Cabinet Level Department of Labor, Employment and Training in our State Government.

We take this position recognizing that the economy is undergoing structural changes at the local, state and national levels. The changes have had a tremendous impact on employment and training and will continue to influence our decisions in these areas.

In addition to those newly unemployed, there is a tremendous number of persons who have not entered the ranks of the gainfully employed.

The reasons for the latter are many, but education, training, and discrimination are among them. In fact, all of the statistics on the subject indicate that minority persons, especially blacks, have problems that are twice as great as non-minority groups.

According to a nationwide National Urban League survey, black unemployment rose to 20 percent in 1982. One of every three blacks surveyed was living on government official poverty level last year, compared to one of every 10 whites.

Black teenage joblessness was at 50 percent.

In the view of the Urban League, it seems wasteful for Maryland to continue its fragmented and scattered approach to addressing the problems of employment and training through a number of offices and programs in the various departments of State Government.

A coordinated, high-priority, massive thrust is mandated to improve the conditions that exist. We believe that such a thrust in Maryland requires direction from the highest level possible - the Governor's Cabinet.

BENJAMIN C. WHITTEN
President, Baltimore Urban League, Inc.

Credit cards

Dear AFRO:

I wonder if citizens of Maryland are aware that they do not have to deal in Delaware for a credit card account. There are banks which stayed in Maryland that offer the same Master Card or others (who do not want Delaware to grow at our expense), and do not charge a fee of $18 per year.

And, by switching our checking account as well, we are earning interest on checking for the first time because of lower balance requirements.

You may choose to do the same.

LLOYD HAAG

Correction on Dr DuBois

I wish to congratulate you on the editorial in the AFRO-AMERICAN of March 12. I refer to your editorial "Black History and the NAACP." You have done an excellent job in putting black history and the NAACP together.

However, it is important for me to point out an error in your editorial regarding Dr. W.E.B. DuBois. I refer to the following statement in your editorial in reference to Dr. DuBois: "He earned his master's degree from Fisk University..."

The record will show that Dr. DuBois did not earn his master's degree from Fisk University. He earned his A.B. degree in 1888 from Fisk University, another A.B. degree in 1890 from Harvard, and his master's degree in 1892 from Harvard. From 1892 to 1894 he studied at the University of Berlin and it was in 1896 that he was awarded the Ph.D. from Harvard University.

I think it is essential that this error be corrected so that young students who are reading the AFRO-AMERICAN to gain knowledge about black history will not repeat your error regarding Dr. DuBois earning his master's degree from Fisk University.

ROSCOE R. NIX

Much at stake in El Salvador

Mr. Reagan's latest pitch to justify increased support to the right-wing government of El Salvador is being built around the prospects of elections in December. Putting aside the questions raised about massive fraud in the last elections and about the effect of the terrifying repression on the voters, this administration's use of elections as a certificate of good conduct — as well as its insistence on elections in Nicaragua — needs to be placed in a historical context.

The democratically- and constitutionally-elected government of Jacobo Arbenz in Guatemala was overthrown in 1954 by a CIA coup headed by the Dulles brothers, former attorneys for the United Fruit Company. The military remains in power to the present.

The similarly-elected government of Juan Bosch in the Dominican Republic was overthrown by a right-wing coup supported by 20,000 U.S. Marines in 1965, by a CIA coup in 1973. Mr. Reagan's first secretary of state was in the White House around that time.

The similarly-elected government Joao Goulart in Brazil was likewise overthrown by a military junta that gained the full support of the U.S. government. The military are only now beginning to loosen up.

In Uruguay, the elected government was overthrown in 1973 by a military dictatorship considered a dependable partner of the U.S.

During all those years, little was heard from the U.S. administrations in support of — let alone demanding — free elections in Duvalier's Haiti, Somoza's Nicaragua, Stroessner's Paraguay or Banzer's Bolivia, where former Nazis were still alive and well. The operative principle was embodied in the famous dictum: "He may be a son of a bitch, but he's our son of a bitch."

Or, as Mr. Kissinger said about Chile, "why should we stand by and let a country go socialist just because of the irresponsibility of its voters?"

It appears to be Mr. Reagan's plan that a U.S. public accustomed to voting regularly on computer cards will respond by reflex to the continuous invocation of elections.

Perhaps not. For those who suspect that there's something more at issue, a review of U.S.-Latin American relations will show that, to date, our government has supported elections only when it found them convenient. Military dictators will do just as well, when they're ours.

LUIS RUMBAUT

G. JAMES FLEMING

Over paying taxes

In this income tax season, it is easy for some politicians and other commentators to cast aspersions about those who dodge paying their tax, or some part of their tax.

And, it always sounds as if the main culprits are the mostly honest, hard-working, rank-and-file "decent" citizens.

Little is said or written about those who do pay all their taxes without any attempt to cheat their government. Nothing—almost nothing—is ever noticed about those who lean so far backwards "to do the right thing" and to be honest, that they over-pay; in other words, they cheat themselves.

Sometimes, others are so afraid of being accused of cheating, that they give the government the benefit of every doubt, without challenge.

This is especially true of the millions of hard-working people who cannot afford high-powered lawyers and certified public accountants. This leaning backwards is also true of the unsophisticated who do not know how they can legally "manipulate the system."

While many asperions are cast against taxpayers in general, and laws are passed to curb them, other laws, in effect, invite the very rich, the high level investors and the corporate managers to find ways to pay scandalously little or no taxes.

Little tax dodgers often go to jail—disgraced. Unfortunately, little credit and no medals are given to those who, year after year, pay their taxes and who give paying taxes their first priority, even when such payment is sacrificial and may deny to themselves and their dependents some of the necessities of life.

No medals, either for those who over-pay, in order to be "on the safe side" or who want to be sure they are within the law.

Nothing here will change the attitude of those in high places who utter accusations against rank-and-file taxpayers. Perhaps, however, these paragraphs may attract interest into giving the rightful credit due to those who pay their taxes willingly, regularly and honestly, and those who over-pay.

There is another area of tax enforcement which needs review. This has to do with real-estate taxes against homes—property that is residential and not for profit-making.

These taxes penalize property-owners who are thrifty enough, or ambitious enough, to improve their residences.

If a husband and wife keep their home in good repair, or if they enclose a porch or pave a driveway, UP go their taxes.

If another family allows its property to fall a part or desert it, their assessment is eventually lowered, and their taxes are, thereby, reduced

Beyond private property, this pattern of taxation is also applied to owners of property to rent. They often benefit by keeping their property in disrepair. In some jurisdictions, it is even more profitable to board up a place than to repair it for rental to those who need housing.

Of course, there are problems connected with taxation—problems legal, economic and social—that can be advanced in rebuttal to these musings.

Nevertheless, in a layman kind of way, it seems a shame that the first official recognition of any improvement (of one's property (family residence are mostly in our mind) is a higher tax bill.

Legislative review

Inside the political process

By David Ruffin

For most of the black experience in America, we have had to struggle for social justice and economic equity from outside of the political process. Many of us remember the years of civil rights activism in the 1950's and early 1960's when issues were clear; the right to vote, desegregation of public accommodations, the elimination of overt job discrimination.

During that period, black political expression took the form of mass marches, picket lines, boycotts and even riots. Black and white people would rally in front of the White House or state house or court house to protest unjust laws and policies administered by a white male power structure. Things were black and white —us and them.

Over the years, with increased black voter participation and greater numbers of black elected officials, the form of black political expression has changed.

Instead of us pounding on the door of government buildings demanding that them white folks do right; we are finding ourselves more and more on the inside when the decisions are being made.

Now as black elected officials help make policy they often participate in subtle and complicated compromises. This point is illustrated by the involvement of black legislators in the budget process during this session in the Maryland General Assembly.

Last Monday, the House of Delegates passed its version of the capital budget for Maryland. The budget contains $6.1 billion for state-supported programs. The House cut $23.7 million from the budget before sending it on to the Senate.

Many members of the Black Caucus feared that the greatest burden of the budget reductions would fall on programs most vital to the interests of the black community. So far, these fears have not been realized.

While funds have been reduced in some important areas, budget cuts for programs important to blacks were not as serious as anticipated for three reasons.

First, there was a concensus among the Black Caucus on what programs should not be cut. Second, several members of the caucus hold powerful leadership positions in the Assembly. And third, the black members of the House were willing to compromise.

Before the House debate of the budget began, there was an internal caucus debate on which programs were sacred cows and which might be cut.

While no "saviors list" of uncuttable programs had actually been drafted, there was general agreement of budget priorities. These priorities were laid out to House Speaker Benjamin Cardin in a meeting before the House voted on the budget bill.

Advocacy meetings of this type have been held among the speaker and members of the Black Caucus before. This meeting had a significantly different complexion since more members of the caucus hold House leadership positions.

For example, the black participants of the meeting included Hattie Harrison, Vice Chairperson of the Caucus and Chairperson of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations;

Larry Young, Chairman of the Committee on Environmental Matters; Howard "Pete" Rawlings, Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and the Environment and John Douglass, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Budget and Audit.

As Delegate John Douglass put it, "with more people on the inside, we are better able to protect programs in advance."

Being an insider is not without its difficulties. In his first year as a subcommittee chairman, Pete Rawlings has had to juggle his leadership position with his commitment to the black agenda.

Last week, he actually had to defend the recommendations of his subcommittee against his Black Caucus colleagues on the floor of the House.

While the House budget is not as bad as some feared, there were some losses.

The state employee health insurance program was cut by $4.5 million. This reduction will have to be made up by state employees by increasing the hospitalization deductible fee from $50 to $100 or adding two or three dollars to the amount employees presently pay for prescriptions or taking $5 monthly from each employee's salary.

Faculty salaries for Morgan State University were reduced by $440,00. All part-time faculty positions were eliminated. However, some members plan to fight to get some of the money restored.

Sixty licensed practical nurse (LPN) trainees will be moved from three hospital sites to a community college. The LPN program provides upward mobility for hospital workers. Moving these LPN's to community colleges will downgrade their practical training experience.

The Medicaid program was cut by $9.6 million. This cut was recommended by Delegate Rawlings' Subcommittee on Health and the Environment because the program has turned back over $14 million in unspent funds for the last two years.

Fellow caucus member Larry Young was concerned that during this period of high unemployment, there may be a heavier demand for Medicaid dollars than in previous years. With $9.6 million cut, the Medicaid fund may run out of money.

The Social Service Administration of the Depatment of Human Resources was reduced by $1 million. However, because this was such a cold winter, an equal amount of money is expected to be left over from the low-income energy assistance program. Those funds will be transferred to the Social Services Administration.

Despite these losses, it is clear that black legislators are making political gains in the general assembly. But Clarence Mitchell and others caution that this is not a time to relax.

Recently, Register of Wills Mary Conaway, Senator Tommie Broadwater and Judge Sylvania Woods, Sr. have all come under attack. Some members of the caucus believe there is a campaign underway to "persecute" black government officials.

Whether there is a conscious plan to persecute black office holders or not, those inside the process would remember that while the nature of the struggle and the character of our tactics may change—the struggle continues.

Mr. Ruffin's "Green Bag" article included Yolanda Ford as a member of the Board of Liquor License. This is not correct. It should have been Jan Schroeder.

Tony Brown Comments

A good idea about to go bad

The question has been asked in media headlines over and over again: "Will Blacks Riot This Year?" They finally did—at the ballot boxes in Chicago's mayoral contest.

The result was a staggering blow to the Democratic machine in Chicago, the Democrats nationally and the front-running candidate for the Democratic nomination for president, Walter Mondale.

Harold Washington's upset victory in the primary election should guarantee him the job as the first Black mayor of Chicago, a city founded by Jean Baptiste DuSable, another Black man.

But in between those two historic points, it has been a political hell for Black-life in that city on the lake. Washington's announcement to breakup the old Democrat machine will redress some of the institutional slavery, but his warring to candidate Mondale might give modern meaning to the magnificent show of Black self-help of Tuesday.

"Mr. Mondale has some explaining to do," Washington promised, "some serious explanations."

Unless you've been living under a rock, you know that Washington, the single Black candidate in the Democratic primary, was referring to Mondale's needless and arrogant meddling in Chicago politics by opposing him and supporting Richard M. Daley, heir-apparent to the old Daley machine.

Another so-called liberal, Sen. Ted Kennedy, supported the other white candidate.

Mondale blamed his racist behavior on a political debt owed to Daley, but carefully ignored the fact that Washington and his district workers produced a 93 percent vote for the 1976 Democratic ticket of Jimmy Carter and WALTER MONDALE.

Mondale, at last aware that he has behaved with "interracial-racism," reserved, of course, for white liberals (if a conservative White had behaved in the same manner, it would simply labeled ("white racism") is now busy asking for speaking engagements at Black colleges for this spring's commencement exercises and phoning members of the Congressional Black Caucus, asking them to help him out of this jam.

But how can they? Without betraying their power base and ethically rejecting what they stand for, how can they interpret his behavior as anything other than racist? They can't.

Which is why Charles Rangel, New York's Black congressman, is reported as saying: "I told him that he should be calling Washington." He added, "It was insanity for him to get involved in that primary."

Of course, Rangel did admit that Mondale had called Washington. "He said he's been calling him but he said Washington won't return his calls." Why should he?

The political game in America is now a new one. Anytime Blacks assert themselves, Whites adjust. It doesn't matter whether it's at the ballot box or in Jim Crow public places. Black rebellion always works.

In Chicago, although 6 percent of the white vote was race-free, 94 percent of it was race-directed to other whites. If 94 percent of Blacks had not been smart enough to support another Black, it would have been white-business - as - usual. And believe it or not, Chicago-based Jesse Jackson has tried to use Washington's victory to launch a presidential campaign.

Jackson, who Washington has promised will not be a part of his administration, took his presidential (a Black version) aspirations to road to Philadelphia and while appearing to work for the Black candidate for mayor, Wilson Goode, was really laying the groundwork for his own run later this year as "Mr. Black President."

"The newest thing is to simply vote Black," Jackson exhorted. Goode, sensing that his candidacy was secondary immediately called the statement "inappropriate, ill-timed and inconsistent with what we believe should happen."

Goode, of course, is in good shape. He leads in a preference poll by 22 points and the proportion of Blacks in Philadelphia in the Democratic Party is 42 percent. If he gets 90 percent of that, and a little White help, he'll win. Politics in Philadelphia is not politics in Chicago and Goode is delicately trying to tell Jackson that.

Andrew Young, mayor of Atlanta, and Jackson's old friend, has some more advice. Young has refused to become the symbolic Black presidential candidate and has said that Blacks would do better backing a white candidate with a chance.

"Real politics is more effective than symbolic politics," he asserts. Of course, he is dead wrong and his political judgement remains shortsighted. Young's logic would guarantee us more Democratic liberals to exploit the Black vote. But Jesse Jackson, although knowing a good idea when he sees it, is the very man who can destroy it—by putting his own personal needs first.

Elizabeth M. OLIVER — FOR ALL WE KNOW

City Editor

IF YOU WERE PRESENT at Martins West at the gala banquet for U.S. Senator John Glenn you would have seen a vivacious and glamorous lady at an important table up front and you would have wondered who she was.

THE LADY is now the newest delegate in the Maryland General Assembly. Her name is Del. Jerry McHugh Perry, the member of the powerful Judiciary Committee.

By the way, at the dinner party she was seated along with her husband, Leon Perry, the NASA public information officer who accompanied the astronauts each time they journeyed to Florida for the Columbia flights.

At their table were Sen. B. W. Mike Donovan (whose guests they were) Attorney General Steve Sachs, his assistant Doralee Resnick; Central Committee members Russell Butler from Morningside; Eldridge Spearman from District Heights; Sue Harrigan from Largo; U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes, Lt. Gov. Joe Curran and Comptroller Louis Goldstein.

AS BUSY AS the proverbial bee, Jerry keeps the prettiest house in the Largo neighborhood nearby the Sugar Ray boxing champs' residence.

She is also a capable journalist and writes a column, "The Happenings in P. G. County" for the Prince Georges County News. (J. Witherspoon Jr. is the editor).

Jerry drives to Annapolis when wee (her permits or stays over in a hotel when issues demand it.

A wonderful cook, she serves delightful menues to hubby Leon and their guests whenever they gather at their home. I FIRST MET Leon and Jerry when they were in Baltimore working at the Hughes - for - Governor Campaign Headquarters filling important posts for Hughes election. Wherever the two go, they make a great impression, jolly, friendly, commanding.

IN HER COLUMN, Jerry covers every bit of news in the area which includes 62 percent black voters from Suitland to Largo. I wonder how she collects so much good newsy stuff both socially and politically.

I RECALL Jerry and Leon's wedding with the invitations all engraved goal and with just the right inserts of cards and envelops. The affair in St. Louis included hundreds of guests, a Who's Who in St. Louis, the East Coast and the Middlewest.

Her brother is Criminal Court Judge William McHugh of St. Louis. Her husband Leon was vice mayor there for a short period before returning to his desk at NASA in Washington.

Easy going, smiling and wonderful to meet, the outstanding couple takes the lead wherever they go.

NEVER TIRING, I expect to hear one of the two on the phone wee after midnight always with some interesting event or happening coming up.

You couldn't help but love both of the Perrys. If you recall we had a special story on them showing the youngsters and adults all at home in their integrated neighborhood. Just ordinary people.

HERE'S MORE on Jerry Perry.

The Honorable Jerry Eileen Perry, D-Largo, is a Democratic member of the House of Delegates, representing the 25th Legislative District in the Maryland General Assembly. She was appointed to the position in February by Governor Harry Hughes after unanimous nomination of the Prince George's County Democratic Committee.

LEON PERRY
NASA public information officer and former vice mayor of East St. Louis.

DEL. JERRY EILEEN PERRY

Mrs. Perry is a highly regarded specialist in the fields of housing, mortgage credit, community development, human services and women's issues. She has more than 15 years experience in both the public and private sector.

Jerry as she is fondly called, is a graduate of Forest Park Junior College, St. Louis, and the University of Missouri at St. Louis, with concentrated studies in sociology and urban affairs.

DISTINGUISHED CAREER

Del. Perry has achieved certification as a human services counselor by the AFL - CIO, and has completed prescribed courses for real estate sales, sponsored by the Metropolitan St. Louis Board of Realtors. The 38 - year - old St. Louis native previously served in several city administrations, as housing relocation field coordinator, housing relocation officer, real estate loan officer and the first director of the city's comprehensive counseling program.

After moving to Maryland to get married, Del. Perry joined the Montgomery County Housing Opportunities Commission as the senior mortgage & housing counselor. She was later selected to become the director of the Housing Information Center for the H.O.C.

NATIONALLY KNOWN

Anxious to renew her political activities, Mrs. Perry resigned her position with the Montgomery County government and joined the InterAmerica Research Associates of Rosslyn, Va., as executive associate and chief training officer. In that capacity, she co - authored a training manual that is currently used to train HUD certified housing counselors nationwide.

Del. Perry holds office of membership in numerous organizations including, the National Association of Housing Officials; Congressional Black Caucus's Braintrust on Housing & Community Development; the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's Human Resources Board; the Prince George's County League of Women Voters.

Also, the Southern Prince George's County Business & Professional Women's Organization; United Communities Against Poverty, the County's anti - poverty agency; the Ridgley Homeowners Association; the Prince George's County NAACP and the Prince George's County Chapter; National Council of Negro Women.

The former Jerry Eileen McHugh comes from a distinguished St. Louis family which includes her brother, the Honorable William McHugh, a Judge in the St. Louis Criminal Court system. Her father, Flanders J. McHugh, is a retired military policeman.

Del. Perry, is married to Leon N. Perry, a NASA public information officer, and member of the board of review for the Maryland Department of Transportation. They reside in the Largo community of Upper Marlboro.

THE NORTHWEST CLUB

THE NORTHWEST CLUB, formerly known at the NORTHWEST CHILD STUDY CLUB was organized Dec. 5, 1949 with Flozella R. Clark serving as the first president.

The empetus for the formation grew out of discussion among a group of young mothers, who were taking their children to dancing lessons at the "LITTLE SCHOOL" under the direction of Mrs. Iona Collins, an original member.

The group would journey across the street on Carrollton Avenue to Mrs. Anethaa Williams' home, where they chatted and she would serve refreshments.

During the earlier years of the children's development, they brought speakers to the meetings to talk about pertinent topics concerning child rearing practices, etc.

Educational trips were taken to New York, Washington, Pennsylvania Dutch Country and Johnson's Farm for picnics for fun with the fathers, mothers, children and their guests.

The members also visited nursing homes at special occasions and brought cheer to the elderly, hospitals loaded with gifts for confined children at Christmas, Easter etc, supported the School Shoe Bank, Life Membership NAACP and helped with electing the correct political forces that affected the lives of our families.

NORTHWEST CLUB, changed focus after most of the children had grown up and finished school with families of their own.

The club meets monthly and still brings in speakers to talk on needs as grandparents and elderly citizens and participate in worthy projects in the city and currently helping with people in need of food daily.

Many members are on Boards, Commissions,, members of Sororities, and churches that reach out to our citizens in need.

In 1984, the club will be together as a club 35 years.

There are 15 very active members:

President, Flozella R. Clark, V. Pres., Clarice Parrish. Secretary, Vera Flint. Rec. Secretary, Elsie Scott. Treasurer, Jimmy Laforest. Members: Lucille Cephas, Iona Collins, Anita Myers, Alice Payne, Gloria Phillips, Vyna Skinner, Ruperta Waters, Mary Sprow, Anethia Williams, Ellen Johns

Committee for the Slide Lecture Presentation: Mrs. Mary Sprow, co ch'm, Anethia Williams, co ch'm, Jimmy Laforest, Clarice Parrish, Flozella R, Clark.

The one man who really has the political savvy, the backing, the acceptance, the philosophy, the charisma, the business sense and the brains in the Black man who was betrayed by the Democratic Party, the white voters and his liberal advisers and cheated out of the mayor's job in New York city: Percy Sutton.

Jesse Jackson, running hardest to be called the- new Black Messiah, has certainly demonstrated that he is not. In a recent show of bad political judgement, he went to Iowa, a state with less than 2 percent Black voters, to campaign as the chosen candidate of Black America for president. Who chose him is still a mystery, but I suspect that his "ego" made him do it.

Self-selected national Black leaders, handpicked by Jackson, will soon hold a "convention" to select a candidate. Jackson will surely be the choice at this so-named "convention" of his political cronies. However, he is sure to become the made-for-failure candidate because nothing can protect him from himself.

TONY BROWN'S JOURNAL TV series can be seen on public television Thursday, on channel 22 at 11:30 p.m. It can also be seen on channels 67 on Thursday at 11:30 p.m. Please consult listings.