Samuel Yette's book, The Choice, is back in print

SILVER SPRING — This book "is one of the finest pieces of journalism I have ever laid eyes on," wrote New York TV producer Gil Noble.

"Hooray," exclaimed a West Coast professor on his order of a copy of the republished edition. "I still have my old copy, and used it as a text when chairing African - American Studies" at a major university.

Noble in New York, the professor in California, and thousands of readers in between are acclaiming the recent republication of **The Choice: The Issue of Black Survival in America**, the prize-winning classic by the veteran journalist and teacher, Samuel F. Yette.

Because of the book's revelations and strong thesis — the potential genocide of black Americans — Yette, the author, was fired from his job as Washington correspondent for **Newsweek** magazine.

First published during the Nixon era (1971) in 11 soft-cover and 8 hard-cover printings, **The Choice** was still in strong demand when it suddenly became unavailable and was declared out of print in 1978.

But now, in the Reagan era, the book has been republished by popular demand.

For, as Noble, producer and host of WABC-TV's "Like It Is," said of **The Choice**: "Despite its age, its validity rings louder and clearer than ever."

At a reception signaling the republication last November, noted political scientist Dr. Ronald Walters termed **The Choice** "a classic" with this justification:

"The test of a classic is the extent to which it speaks to all of the generations. **The Choice** does just that."

The book outlines and documents insidious social dangers: technology that takes away the economic value of millions of workers, and an erosion of basic rights in a socio-economically sick society, resulting in officially - sanctioned or officially - ignored attempts to eliminate a historical, now obsolete, victim — the black American.

In 1972, **The Choice** won the highest non-fiction award of the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, and a Citation of Merit from the Capital Press Club in Washington.

The newly-published edition of **The Choice** carries a Foreword by the famous novelist and social critic, John Oliver Killens, who says the book is even more important now than before.

"This book," writes Killens, "is doubly important, especially for the current generation, who never sat in a Jim Crow coach or a train, never saw a "White Only" sign, never knew the wrath of **Southern Hospitality**, the fire hose or the cattle prods, nor the deprivation of the Northern cities."

The concern of Killens, Yette, and many others, is that without the danger signs that once were clearly posted, the subtler, but no-less-imminent, dangers of racism, fascism, greed, and today's technocracy might go uncomprehended, and, therefore, unchallenged — and undefeated.

Therefore, many felt, republication of **The Choice**, originally published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, was urgently needed.

Many dangers revealed in **The Choice** have since been publicly confirmed, so much so that some readers, especially the early ones, regard the book as prophecy. The author, however, declines the notion that his book futurizes — that is, **foretells the future.**

A distinguished journalist (with the **Afro-American, Ebony, the Dayton Journal Herald**, and **Newsweek**) and journalism professor (at Howard University), Yette says his book is not so much prophecy as it is solid journalistic reporting of things that exist, but which are too little known to the public.

For example, on the Sunday following the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1968, Yette interviewed then-Attorney General Ramsey Clark on NBC's "Meet the Press."

When Yette asked Clark whether rebelling black citizens might be rounded up and put in concentration camps, Clark responded that there were not, had never been, and never would be concentration camps in the United States.

In **The Choice**, however, Yette refuted Clark's assertion by listing names and locations of concentration camps used to imprison more than 109,000 U.S. citizens of Japanese ancestry during World War II — a fact acknowledged in 1983 by the U.S. Government.

The Choice also reveals how — during the 1960s — some federal officials did, indeed, advocate locking "black guerrillas" in concentration camps — such as those used to imprison Haitian refugees in 1982.

Yette reported also that, in 1970, then-President Richard Nixon, through court appointments, was clearing the way "to give tax-exemptions to white private and parochial schools, with a corresponding drop in public support for public schools where black students are enrolled."

On June 29, 1983, with three Nixon appointees voting in the majority, the U.S. Supreme Court did, indeed, approve tax credits for private and parochial schools — a clear detriment to public schools and black education.

These, and many other dangers, are fully documented in this work of rare courage and intellectual discipline. For those willing to be jolted by the facts, **The Choice** is compelling—must—must reading.

Once again, therefore, major universities, and otherwise thoughtful readers, are adopting **The Choice** as required reading.



Samuel F. Yette

State judges need not recite specific litany before accepting guilty pleas

Maryland judges do not have to recite a specific litany to a defendant before accepting a guilty plea, the state's highest court ruled Monday.

The Court of Appeals said as long as the plea is voluntary and the defendant understands the nature of the charges and the consequences of the plea, judges have met their obligation.

In making the ruling, the court reversed a Court Of Special Appeals' decision and reinstated the conviction against a woman in an Anne Arundel County Welfare fraud case.

The Court of Special Appeals, the State's intermediate appellate court, had overturned the conviction against Mamie V. Brazle, also known as Mamie Eldridge, after she was sentenced to the maximum three years imprisonment and ordered to pay restitution and court costs. She had been found guilty of accepting public assistance payments while employed.

On appeal, Ms. Brazle said she had interpreted the state's agreement to make no recommendation as to her sentence to mean that the state would recommend that she not be sentenced at all.

The Court of Special Appeals agreed, saying, "A judge must inform every defendant who pleads guilty where the state makes no recommendation as to sentence, but the defendant is eligible for probation, that the court is not required to provide probation."

The high court, however, noted that Ms. Brazle was told the maximum sentence was three years and she said she understood. She also told the lower court that no promises had been made to her other than the state's agreement to make no recommendation as to sentencing, the high court noted.

The Court of Appeals, in a unanimous decision written by Judge Harry Cole, concluded, "The evidence clearly demonstrated that (Ms. Brazle) voluntarily and intelligently entered a guilty plea with full understanding of the consequences of her action."



VOTER REGISTRATION — The Committee on Political Equality (COPE '83) recetly presented three voter registration projects with sizeable financial contributions. Shown participating in the reception ceremony are (L to R), Gail Buntin, CEBO; Jean Bias, NAACP voter mobilization assistant; Ernest Jones, James Abraham, NAACP Vter Mobilization Coordinators; Kay Barner of CEBO; Herbert Brown, COPE '83; and Sam Daniels, COPE '83. The funds are being used to register and mobilize the black community's voting strength.

Male birth control salve almost ready for human testing

A Johns Hopkins University scientist says he is ready for human testing of a male birth control salve that men will rub on their stomachs to repress sperm production.

Larry L. Ewing, professor of reproductive biology, is one of 800 scientists from around the world who are meeting this week at case Western Reserve University to discuss reproduction.

Ewing said that he has conducted 12 years of research on rats, rabbits and rhesus monkeys and is ready to test his patented combination on human volunteers.

He acknowledged that the federal Food and Drug Administration will study his proposal for two years before allowing the experiments on men.

Even if those experiments are successful, it will be several additional years before the salve is available to the public, he noted.

Volunteers will rub a daily dose of the hormone-containing salve onto their stomachs to induce the pituitary gland to suppress sperm production, he said.

From his experiments on animals, Ewing said the hormones, a combination of naturally occurring testosterone and estradiol, appeared to have no effect on the specimen's sex drive.

Ewing published three scientific papers about his findings in the journal, Contraceptive, earlier this year.

His colleagues agreed that male birth control contraceptives are not far off in the future.

"A male pill is about here," said Howard J. Brinkley, professor of Zoology at the University of Maryland.

Griff T. Ross, dean of the medical school of the University of Texas-Houston, complained about the lack of funding for reproductive research, saying there were no federal dollars available for test-tube baby research.

"I don't know how many babies and women were put at risk by the lack of federal funding," he said.

Wave pool death results in new rules

The state issued guidelines aimed at improving the drowning of a 9-year-old boy last month as the Wild World amusement parks in Prince George's County.

The new rules were issued by the Maryland department of licensing and regulation.

"It's just a start because we've never had anything like this", Labor and Industry Commissioner Dominic Fornaro said. "There probably will be improvements (to the guidelines) later on".

He said the amusement park, which participated in drawing up the guidelines, already has met their requirements.

The rules will now go through administrative procedures to become state regulations, Fornaro said.

He said Wild World has the only wave pool in Maryland.

The guidelines state that no one under 13 years of age will be allowed in the deep end of the wave pool, and there will be a limit of 700 rafts in the pool at one time. Only two persons will be allowed on one raft.

Before last month's drowning, as many as 1,500 rafts were in the pool at one time, and Fornaro said Wild World officials have voluntarily lowered the limit to 500.

Wild World also will be required to furnish 600 life jackets free of charge, and the wave machine will be turned off briefly every 10 minutes. There also will be a 15-minute rest period every hour during which time the pool will be cleared.

Fornaro said the guidelines should eliminate any safety hazards at the wave pool, but he said the state would continue to monitor operation of the facility.

"If anything else happens, we'll have to go to the legislature" for a state law requiring people to wear life jackets in the pool, he said.

— Community Calendar —

VARIETY GROUP TO ENTERTAIN

A free variety show will be presented at the Urban Services Project SAGA (Security and Action for Golden Agers) Center at 1400 E. Federal St. on Tuesday, August 16 at 11 a.m. Take "5" Exploration Unlimited, Inc., a non-profit group, will entertain the senior citizens.

Their program will include poets, vocalists, musicians, clowns, monologuists, and a kiddies disco.

Take "5" was formed in 1979 for the purpose of introducing fresh, unknown talent. Its performers range in age from three to 80. "We let the artist speak. If you have the talent, we'll provide the arena," says Take "5" president B. J. Watties.

For more information on the variety show, call 396-3861.

CAMP DAWN DAY

A unique five day camp program where foster and adoptive families can share experiences and ideas has been scheduled for August 25 through August 29. The program is sponsored by the Black Adoptive Parents of Greater Baltimore and Families Adopting Children Everywhere, two volunteer adoption groups in Maryland

Barbara Lumpkins, Co-Director of the camp states that this camp experience will provide an opportunity to examine their common goals and problems. It is one of the many support services available to adoptive and foster parents.

Mrs. Lumpkins noted that there are many children in Maryland who need a permanent family. A large number of these children are healthy school-age black males or children of various ages with physical, emotional or mental handicaps. These children pose a challenge for any family but help is available. Working together with other experienced adoptive families, most families are able to devise ways of successfully parenting a child who has had a difficult life. The camp also provides a chance for the children to participate in wholesome outdoor recreation.

For the adults, workshops are planned in the following areas: legal issues in Adoption Foster Care; Discipline Techniques; Effect of Foster Parenting or Adoption on the Marriage Relationship; Transracial Placement; Differences and similarities between Adoption and Foster Care. The workshops will be led by nationally known Adoption Foster Care Experts, Jack Frank and Barbara Tremitiene of Tressler - Lutheran Social Services in York, Pennsylvania. They will be assisted by social workers from Maryland public and private social service agencies. The camp will provide an opportunity for families and social workers to come together as a team. This experience can, then, carry over to the day-to-day interactions between the families and the professionals. Agency personnel are also hoping that these families will assist in recruiting other families who would like to parent a waiting child.

If you would like further information on the camp or on adoption, please contact Barbara Lumpkins, 644-0631, or Becky Thomson, 467-2527.

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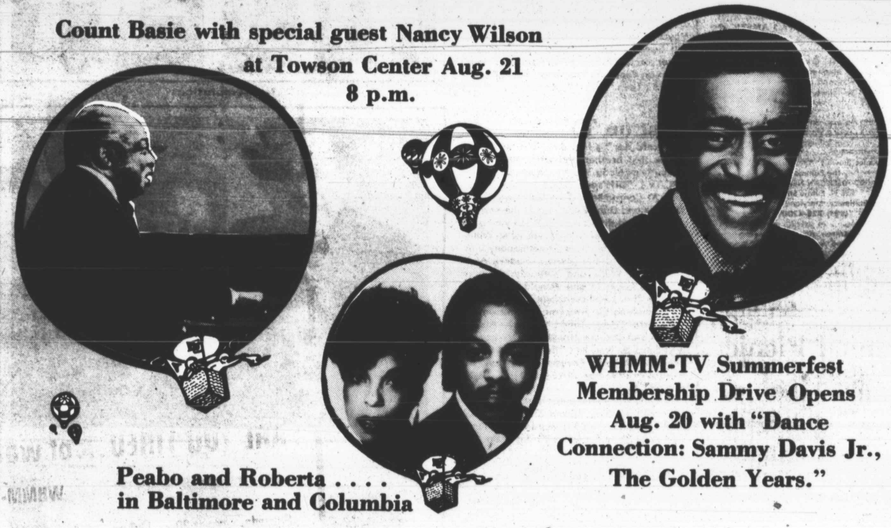
Friday

THE WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT/ LEISURE TIME GUIDE FOR THE BALTIMORE AND WASHINGTON AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

August 19, 1983

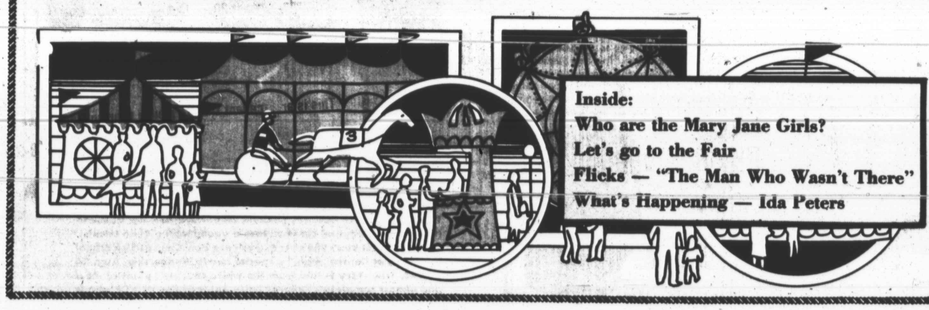
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Count Basie with special guest Nancy Wilson at Towson Center Aug. 21 8 p.m.



Peabo and Roberta . . . . in Baltimore and Columbia

WHMM-TV Summerfest Membership Drive Opens Aug. 20 with "Dance Connection: Sammy Davis Jr., The Golden Years."



Inside:

Who are the Mary Jane Girls?

Let's go to the Fair

Flicks — "The Man Who Wasn't There"

What's Happening — Ida Peters