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Mother's Day

Perhaps no holiday evokes more sentiment than Mother's Day. Motherhood is something of a sacred calling in this society and this day set aside to honor the mothers of the world is a recent invention.

Mother's Day does not have the ancient religious origins of Christmas and Easter, yet Mother's Day brings out an outpouring of emotion and kindness that can scarcely be contained.

Mothers all over the country will be treated to dinner and showered with gifts and tokens of affection. This is only natural since mothers still do the bulk of nurturing of children. Mother love is legendary because it is usually so unselfish and enduring.

Even mother love however is no substitute for child support payments. Far too many mothers in the black community are raising children without any financial assistance from the father. This phenomenon cuts across class lines.

The feminization of poverty that is talked about a great deal in this country is a result of far too many women being left to support themselves and their children when women's wages are still far less than men's.

Out of wedlock births contribute to the problem but much of the problem comes from divorce situations where the husband abdicates his responsibility when the couple breaks up. Support enforcement procedures must be strengthened.

Sentimental tributes to motherhood are fine but many mothers are in dire need of material displays of support.

Parren J. Mitchell

A strong society needs

Truancy and welfare benefits

A proposal is making the rounds among some school officials to have welfare benefits withdrawn from families that have a child who is excessively truant from school.

The target group is welfare families supposedly because an inordinate number of the truant students come from families on public assistance. The mode of thought is that the withdrawal of the benefits will force the parent to make the child start attending school.

The proposal raises some very serious issues. First comes the question of the legality of the proposal. There are already laws on the books that hold parents accountable for absenteeism. A person's welfare benefits are based on a determination of genuine need. Need does not go away because of truancy.

If there are other children in the family who are going to school, should they starve because of an older sibling? Will hunger improve the behavior of the truant child and his or her siblings?

The proposal sends the wrong message. It singles out the most economically distressed segment of society for economic sanctions. No one has proposed garnishing the wages of a parent of a truant child although some of the truants come from families with working parents. No one talks about seizing the assets of parents whose children are truant.

Hopefully this proposal will not become policy in the city. Starvation is not the proper way to impress the importance of education on a young person.

Letter to the AFRO

Response by Enolia McMillan

Member of the Morgan State University Board of Regents.

An article appeared in the April 29, 1986 edition of the AFRO-AMERICAN under the caption: "200 Morgan State Students Hold Anti-retrenchment Rally." The article made reference to my participating with two faculty members and a Morgan alumnus in a discussion on the topic — "Morgan: A University in Transition — How Can it Affect You."

While the writer's quote of my comments on the continuing need for black colleges was essentially correct, the inclusion of the quote in that particular article was a little disturbing to me. Perhaps it was not so much what the April 27 article said as, what it did not say.

Because of what was not said in the article, one could easily conclude that I was part of group criticizing the current leadership of the University. Nothing could be further from the truth.

First, I was invited to speak on what I believed to be a meaningful and very much needed discussion on the critical issues the University faces as it makes its transition from a trouble period of internal turmoil and decline to a period of stability and growth. Once on the campus, there appeared to have been a hidden agenda. (The President was scheduled to speak with students the following day on faculty retrenchment.)

I want to make it clear, however, that at no point was I involved in any criticism of the University's current leadership. There is no question in my mind that Dr. Earl Richardson is among the most effective leaders the University has ever had.

He has come to the University at a most difficult time in its history, and in only a short period of time, he has made incredible progress toward reestablishing the credibility, integrity, and image of the Univeristy.

Dr. Richardson has been quite effective in regaining for the University the confidence of political leaders, the business community, the general community, alumni and traditional friends. I might add that while I do not pretend to speak for my colleagues on the Board of Regents, I am confident that they share my assessment of the President.

The April 29 article referenced also some concern on the part of students about the possibility of a plan for merger of Morgan State University with the University of Maryland. There is no doubt in my mind that the issue of merger was designed by the President's critics to create further unrest in the university community.

That is so unfortunate since Morgan now enjoys the best governance structure it can have. For example, the Board of Regents of the University of Maryland governs the five branches of that segment as well as its major research center and several lesser units.

The Board of Trustees for State Colleges and Universities is responsible for Bowie State College, Towson State College, Coppin State College, the University of Baltimore, Frostburg State College and Salisbury State College.

Clearly, the Board of Trustees for State Colleges and Universities and the University of Maryland Board of Regents must each balance its interest among several campuses.

Morgan State University, like St. Mary's College, has its own governing board which means that it can devote full attention to a single campus. The MSU Board of Regents and the Administration believe that the single institution governance arrangement is most ideal for the University and should not be altered in any way that would destroy the current advantage.

To continue the merger rumor can only serve to undermine the progress of the University and hinder us from realizing the benefits that drive from a sole institution governance arrangement.

The other main issue in the campus discussion and mentioned in the article was faculty retrenchment and what it means from the standpoint of the traditional liberal arts emphasis at Morgan.

The position advanced at the meeting was that the retrenchment was destroying the liberal arts emphasis. Nothing could be further from the truth. To my knowledge, not a single liberal arts program is slated for discontinuance.

Rather the University is moving toward strengthening the liberal arts component of the general education curriculum and to strengthen core liberal arts academic majors. The current retrenchment effort is simply to bring staffing for these programs in line with the number of students those programs now serve.

Obviously, the Board of Regents nor the President takes pleasure in retrenching anyone. It is a very painful decision for us, and we are making every attempt to minimize the impact through reassignments, position reclassifications, retirement inentive programs, and other schemes. Even then, the magnitude of overstaffing and faculty imbalance has been allowed to reach such proportions over the years that it will be impossible to avoid significant reductions.

Under the Reagan Administration, the current erosion of civil rights laws in our country is proceeding at an alarming rate.

As a part of a sweeping effort to reassess, redirect, and dismantle the federal government's civil rights efforts, the administration has mounted a wide-ranging attack on existing affirmative action policies that will eventually affect every public and private employer, and millions of workers.

When the Civil Rights Act was passed in 1964, Title VII of the Act contained a broad based statute prohibiting discrimination. The Civil Rights Act barred discrimination all practices on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, and national origin.

It also created the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to administer and enforce this law.

Since passage of The Civil Rights Act, Democratic and Republican administrations alike have adopted the philosophy that the federal government must take an active role to guarantee equal opportunity for all in employment.

Several Executive Orders (E.O.) were issued that further strengthened anti-discrimination laws. E.O. 11246, a product of the Johnson administration, set equal employment opportunity standards for any contractor who did business with the federal government.

Executive Order 11478, issued by the Nixon administration in 1969, integrated all parts of personnel management -- hiring, training, promotions, etc. -- with equal opportunity and clearly spelled out affirmative action methods to accomplish these goals.

Under the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, federal sector employees were afforded Title VII protection, and the U.S. Civil Service Commission was mandated to take action to achieve measurable gains in employing women and minorities.

In 1978, President Carter issued E.O. 12607, which transferred all equal employment opportunity functions and affirmative action programs under authority of the EEOC.

These laws and executive orders form the base for present day affirmative action and equal employment opportunity guidelines in the federal workplace. This is the same base officials in the Reagan administration are attempting to dismantle.

The intentions of the administration became clear when its biggest offensive against affirmative action was launched late last year. The following events are outright acts against the enforcement of affirmative action policies:

—In August, 1985, White House staff drafted an Executive Order to repeal E.O. 11246, a 20-year-old order that required federal contractors set numerical goals to remedy possible job discrimination.

—In a case involving New York sheet-metal workers, the EEOC joined the Justice Department in urging the Supreme Court to strike down minority hiring targets the commission had previously supported.

—Last fall, the EEOC signed a consent decree settling sex discrimination charges against Macmillan Publishing Co., specifying that "the EEOC takes no position" on a provision involving hiring goals, "and will not participate in its enforcement."

—In February of this year, the EEOC announced that it has abandoned the use of hiring goals and timetables in litigation settlements with private employers accused of race and sex discrimination.

—Also within the past year, the EEOC has in general, moved away from sweeping industry-wide lawsuits and is concentrating on individual cases that rely less on hiring statistics. Finding individual victims of race and sex discrimination is often an impossible and fruitless task.

—And recently, President Reagan nominated Jeffery Zuckerman to serve as General Counsel for the EEOC. Zuckerman, a conservative and chief of staff of EEOC Chairman Clarence Thomas, suggests that blacks and women can overcome discrimination by offering to work for lower wages than white employees. he has also been opposed to several laws that are against age and sex discrimination.

These events firmly indicate the lack of sensitivity and action by the EEOC under the Reagan Administration, in enforcing federal laws that foster equal employment in the workplace.

Strong enforcement of current laws are necessary for women and minorities to continue to make inroads in Federal employment. The courts have long noted that the purpose of equal employment opportunity is to insure that everyone has a chance to gain his or her rightful place at work.

We still have a long way to go and without making affirmative action a priority, we may never achieve full equality.

Anthony Armstrong

Political primer No. 2:

How do you make a candidate? Why, in the first place, would anyone want to do so? What advantages are there to the people behind an effort to make someone a candidate for political office?

First, we need to understand that candidates are made all the time; it's as old a political activity as kissing all the babies and shaking all the men's hands.

Second, there are instances where "manufactured" candidates turn out to be worthwhile, such instances generally are few, however.

Now, how do you make a candidate? In politics three essentials must be present in order to produce, to make, a candidate. Those three elements are: one, a "product." The product is the person selected for "the make."

Number two is resources — money; usually lots of money. So much money is required to manufacture a candidate because it is much harder to start a wheel rolling than it is to keep a wheel rolling. In other words, it's more costly to produce a candidate from nothing than it is to build on a candidate that has earned some public recognition; recognition won from having already served the public.

The third ingredient is organization; this is political organization. Few, if any, brand new products have any kind of political organization; they usually buy into, or are brought into, the existing organization of another politician or political "kingmaker." They must buy-in because nothing is free in politics.

They are brought-in usually because they have something that the real political "players" think can be "packaged" for sale to voters (political selling is where the political professionals treat the product just like soap powder that they want you and me to buy, or, in this case, to vote for).

Now that the elements needed to manufacture a candidate — a product, money, and organization — are understood, how are these things put to work to pull-off the job?

It is this phase of the process, of creating a candidate, that is the most interesting and instructive. It is here that much of the Hollywood aspect of politics is so important.

The kingmaker must first get his boy, the political nothing he is trying to make into a political something, in front of the press. This is done to create the name recognition so necessary to any would-be successful politician.

Getting a new face, a new name, in front of the press requires links to the press; the kingmaker must be influential enough to be able to call reporters and say, "Hey man, do a favorable story about "my product."

Yet, more important, the press (I'm including the print as well as the broadcast media here) must, for its own reasons, be predisposed to assist in making the new, untried, untested product successful.

For, if they don't want the new product to be successful, the press will either ignore him or, only do less than flattering stories about him. The press works this way: if they like you, the slightest little thing that is positive about you is made to look like you just authored the Ten Commandments.

If the press dislikes you, no matter what you've done to help people, no matter how long you've done it, the press will make those accomplishments look like so much sawdust.

The press is so important that any kingmaker is always looking for a product that will "run well" in the press. For this reason, kingmakers look for people with high-powered educational credentials or pretty faces, or blistering oratorical skills. The product doesn't have to know anything about politics because even if he eventually gets elected, the kingmaker winds up telling him what to do, what to vote for or what to vote against. The thing any voter needs remembering about the manufactured candidate—the product; is that the product answers to the people, the kingmakers, that "made" him; not to the voters that might elect him.

In politics, as everywhere else in life he who pays the piper calls the tune; this axiom, somewhat true of any candidate is completely true in the case of the manufactured candidate.

It seems that the phenomenon of the manufactured candidate is especially prevalent among blacks. Rarely, if ever however, do we blacks know that the shining new candidate in our midst has been manufactured, put-on, by forces that have nothing to do with us; care little about us (or the candidate, for that matter) and, don't have our interest at heart.

Rarely do we know, because we don't stop to ask some basic questions. The first question ought to be: who is he; where does he come from (attitudinally as well as location) and, who is bankrolling that product's meteoric rise?

We'll have more to say about money and organization in a future primer. For now, keep your eyes peeled for the manufactured candidate. He's the one that "came from nowhere." He's the one enjoying the spoils of some political kingmaker's efforts toward the making of a candidate.

G. James Fleming

Joining the chorus

So much has been said about Clarence M. Pendleton, Jr., that it seems superfluous to add another word declaring how despicable a creature the chairman of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is to many, many people.

But, only the rush of other matters has kept this column silent, until now.

First, it was hard to believe that any 20th Century black person would become such a hatchet man for an administration which, so far as civil rights is concerned, is committed to wiping out the gains of the past 30 to 40 years.

Secondly, it was equally difficult to believe that anyone who had received the training and gained the experiences of an executive of the Urban League could evolve into such a lick-spittle "front" for those who would turn back the clock.

With Bradford Reynolds, once assistant attorney general for civil rights (It should be against civil rights) and Clarence Pendleton, chairman of the Commission on Civil Rights, the Moral Majority, the Ku Klux Klan, and other anti-progress groups need no other "friends" in Washington.

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To rebut Pendleton is almost a waste of time, for he knows better than he professes. He utters words that sound rational, logical and legal, but his words ignore the facts of history and the bitter reality of life in the United States, even in the 1980s.

He stands with those who label every constructive and affirmative action to facilitate the upward mobility of minority groups--especially blacks--as "reverse discrimination."

Those governmental programs that require a fixed percentage of government contracts to go to minority business, Pendleton calls "mayhem to the Constitution," – although the courts have not declared them to be unconstitutional.

The latest attack by Pendleton on the "set-aside" arrangements is his proposal for the federal government to declare a one-year moratorium on their enforcement.

Pendleton knows, as everyone else knows, however, that such a moratorium will be a big step towards killing these programs altogether. Those opposed to the progress of blacks will gain an inch and they will take a yard.

It is to the credit of the majority of the members of the Civil Rights Commission, including some Reagan appointees, that it was decided to send back Pendleton's proposal to the staff for review, perhaps revision.

Unless the White House calls Pendleton's hands, however, or unless the practical Republicans bring pressure against the chairman (This is an election year!), the revised report will still bear the imprimatur of Pendletonism.

Some black Republicans, as others, have urged resignationor ouster of the reactionary Pendleton.

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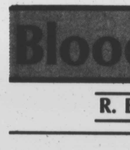
The remnants of racial discrimination, in labor unions, in management, in government agencies, and the society, in general, conspires (by dint of habit, if nothing else) to a continuation of racial practices against blacks and other minorities.

It sounds mighty magnanimous for Pendleton to tell the press that "...I don't believe people deserve a preference in this country because of race."

That sounds good, but when a people have suffered for centuries, from discrimination, especially anti-black discrimination, some steps must be taken, in the NOW, to correct the sins of the past.

What is falsely called "discrimination in reverse," including "set-aside" programs, is nothing more than an attempt --some say feeble attempt--to right historic wrongs and, to repeat, correct past sins, Clarence Pendleton, to the contrary, notwithstanding.



Bloodnotes

R. B. Jones

To run or not to run

As difficult as this might be for some people to tolerate, I am suggesting that Parren Mitchell not reenter the race for the 7th District Congressional seat.

Parren should not run, for his benefit and for the benefit of the black community's political maturity. Parren Mitchell has survived well in his long tenure in Congress.

He has a long history of serving the community both in and out of politics. He has been an advocate for the poor and the oppressed.

Mitchell has been the most sought after politician in Baltimore by the people, often called upon to help when local and state jurisdiction were involved. The phrase "I'm going to call Parren's Mitchell's office," has been heard countless times.

Parren Mitchell was the congressman of all black people in Maryland, not just the district. P. J. as he is fondly called, has his faults like all of us, but his integrity has not been questioned.

That is precisely why Parren should not run for Congress.

He announced his retirement from Congress months ago and he has been accepting accolades and tributes for his years of service. A number of candidates have entered the race to succeed Parren and they have spent money on the campaign and commited themselves to the race.

It is doubtful that any of the present candidates would run against Mitchell directly by choice but the fact that they are already in the race means that they must stay in or appear to be unserious. A race with all these candidates plus Mitchell would create a very ominous situation where the feeling of betrayal and an increasingly bitter campaign will snap some of the strength from the black community.

If Parren does not run, the competitive process will bring the people's choice to the top. If Parren runs he will probably win, but it will be a tarnished victory.

The victory would be tarnished because it is an open secret that his brother was planning to run for the 7th district seat and his nephew has postponed his announcement because of the serious problems that his aging and mortally large war chest cannot clean up.

As time goes by, the chances that Parren's nephew will run diminish. The postponement of his nephew's announcement was a major setback, despite protestations that it was delayed because his mother was sick. It seems that his personal problems will demand more time than expected.

If Parren runs again, it will appear to many that he will be running for the seat as a caretaker until his nephew's problems are resolved and then he can take over. This might not be Parren's intention, but it would appear that way to many.

Parren does not need a postscript such as that to his distinguished political career. Nor does he need to serve in Congress if his heart is really not in it.

One must assume that his retirement announcement was based on the fact that he no longer wanted to serve in Congress. If he doesn't want to serve he shouldn't be forced to serve. Parren is not the only person of courage, intelligene and integrity we have who can serve.

If he is, we had better find a way to make him immortal, The attempt by some community leaders to persuade Parren to run again is unfair to him and a form of cowardice.

If community leaders are afraid that the nephew whom many people feel is not congressional timber, will win the seat if Parren does not run, they should meet with the nephew and tell him of their opposition.

If they were truly concerned they would have created some mechanism for insuring that only the most qualified candidates stayed in the race when Parren announced his retirement.

Community leadership has never made the nephew accountable for his misadventures before and they are avoiding the task again by trying to get Parren to run again.

Parren has a right to change careers if he wants to. He has a right to do a book or lecture or take it easy. Black people must do away with this messiah complex that causes us to use up our leaders and burn them out rather than reproducing leadership by training and utilizing other persons as leaders.

Parren Mitchell has served well. If the black community is careful about selecting his successor it can receive the same kind of faithful service again.

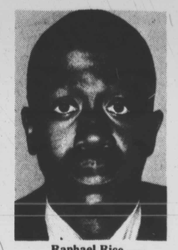
The key to community involvement not sitting around waiting for a savior to come along and handle our problems while we sink into complacency.

There is a rumor circulating that Parren will pull a Harold Washington and run for mayor next year. It would make for a very interesting mayor's race in 1987 and it would give Parren a different set of challenges to face. It must have gotten very frustrating watching Reagan stampede Congress for four years with many former allies giving up the ship.

Whatever choice Parren Mitchell makes in his retirement he deserves the best for he has served above and beyond the call of duty many times in his 16-year congressional career.

-AFRO SURVEY-

What makes your mother special to you?



Raphael Rice

Sandra Pullen

Danita Burrell

Vastina Brown

This week the question to the man and woman in the street is, "What makes your mother special to you?"

RAPHAEL RICE, 30, security guard, "She's the type of person who understands when I have a problem. She's also a good friend. She makes me feel proud to have a mother who understands me. This is what makes my mother special to me."

SANDRA PULLEN, 21, clerk, "My mother is deceased, but she was loving. She was the kind of mother who would help you out in any kind of problem. She was a true believer in God and a very encouraging mom. That is what made her special to me."

DANITA BURRELL, 23, unemployed, "Being able to sit down and talk woman to woman is the kind of mom I have. We travel together on different shopping sprees. She's like my best buddy. She works hard and is very easy going and that is what makes her special to me."

VASTINA BROWN, 29, homemaker, "She's a very loving person, especially in times of need. I think she should be voted 'Mother of the Year.' There are no words that could describe her or the things she has done for me and that is what makes her special to me."

VALERIE TALLEY, 25, unemployed, "She's understanding and a friend. She's always there when I need her. She helps me with my child. She's been a provider. When I don't have something, I can go to her. These are some of the things that she does that makes her special to me."

SHERONDA GORDON, 19, billing clerk, "Her quiet affectionate ways, her sarcasm, these are special to me. She's very particular about her house and life; and about her upbringing and that of her children. These are some of the things that make my mother special to me."

TONYA ELLINGTON, 23, student, "She's very supportive of me and a positive role model in my life. This is what makes my mother special to me."

RACYNTHIA CLARK, 21, clerk, "She bore me and my sister at a young age. She raised us on her own. I admire the way she brought us up on her own and those are a few things that make her special to me."

Valerie Talley

Sheronda Gordon

Tonya Ellington

Racynthia Clark

Response to 'Seventh District Blues'

We appreciate your role as an opinion-maker, but we are truly amazed at how you seem to base some of your opinions on the rumor-mill as was done with your editorial piece "Seventh District Blues" (April 26, 1986).

While we noted your concern about the Phillips for Congress campaign, you may rest assured that our strategy in no way bears resemblance to what you have conjectured.

We take particular objection to your use of the term "anointed" when speculating on the candidacy of Del. Phillips. His decision to run for Congress was made independently of any person outside of the Phillips for Congress campaign.

Del. Phillips, as you must remember, was one of the first to declare his intention to run for Congress in the fall of 1983 when Parren Mitchell indicated then that he was going to retire from office.

Further, the Phillips for Congress campaign has not sought nor received endorsements from any of the gubernatorial or U.S. Senatorial candidates. We will not seek such endorsements, for reasons that should be obvious to anyone who is politically sophisticated.

Unfortunately, your heavy reliance on innuendo shows a blatant disregard for factual information thereby diminishing the credibility of the entire editorial.

CAMPAIGN MANAGEMENT TEAM

* * *

R.B. Jones' article has prompted this letter. I would not expect a theatrical overview on the Editorial Page, but that was what I felt I was reading as I digested his article.

It is quite obvious that the writer does not know Rev. Phillips. If so, he would know that the only person who directs Wendell Harrison Phillips is Jesus The Christ. He follows the credo "We are put here for one purpose — to be servants — to serve other people in His name. Everything else is irrelevant."

This philosophy, which started when he was 11 years of age, caused him to help break through the chains of segregation in the Thorofare Food Markets of Pittsburgh, PA.

Led him to become president of the NAACP of Rochester, N.Y. and Monroe County, while working side by side with the late Malcolm X to end police brutality in that city; directed him to participate in the Freedom Marches of the South; and brought him to Baltimore into the midst of the struggle and the heat of the battle.

Delegate Phillips brings to this race eight years of legislative experience of the highest level.

His last two years as Chairman of the Baltimore City Delegation generated very effective networking to the benefit of the City. The candidate's contributions to the City of Baltimore illustrate the scope of his commitment to people, as he:

Co-founded B.U.I.L.D.; chaired the Board of Directors of Park Community Center, working with teenagers, gangs, and first offenders; organized, as pastor, Heritage United Church of Christ;

Initiated 37 bias charges against Mayor Schaefer, 35 of which were substantiated by the federal government; held/holds board and/or committee memberships from Single Parent Services to United Way.

By no means do the achievements end here. Perhaps for the sake of good journalism, your paper will consider giving your readers the real facts.

LEROY DURHAM

* * *

In response to "BLOOD NOTES" of 4/25/86, I wanted to share with you some alternative views and perceptions. I was one of the 300 persons called at my home to participate in the recent poll on candidate preference in the upcoming 7th Congressional District race for U.S. House of Representatives.

I felt the questions were obviously biased according to the interest of the Republican candidate St. George Crosse to determine his chances to win if Clarence Mitchell were to win the Democratic primary.

It was therefore interesting to me that in your analysis you used the majority of your editorial space to sew negative seeds about the candidacy of Rev. Wendell Phillips, when, as I recall, his name was mentioned far less in the poll questions than Mitchell or Crosse.

If you can get a copy of the actual poll questions for an analysis, you may find that it would have been impossible to show strong favorable preference for Rev. Wendell Phillips based soley on how questions were phrased for response.

I was keenly aware of this since I happen to be whole heartedly in support of the candicacy of Rev. Wendell Phillips for the 7th Congressional District seat, and would have wanted to communicate how strongly I support his efforts to be reflected in the poll.

BERNETTE L. JONES

* * *

On the issue of who the perceived and/or actual supporters of Rev. Wendell Phillips may be, it is surely in my opinion counter productive to call attention to the people who may endorse his candidacy without, at the same time enlightening people about how the respect for him was earned from these people.

Of all the intended candidates, Rev. Wendell Phillips is the only one, to my knowledge, who has demonstrated the integrity of his commitment by publicly exposing and challenging the Mayor through the legal system of our country and winning the fight by demanding accountability and justice.

The spirit of a person and the spirit of a movement that can then turn around and heal the resulting antagonistic relationship with that same Mayor is a powerful ministry.

BERNETTE JONES

* * *

Are you about reporting the news or making assumptions? Throughout the column, Mr. Jones postulated that Del. Wendell H. Phillips:

(1) Would be endorsed by the Sun Paper — do you put a lot of validity in rumors?

(2) Was not moving in his campaign — do you hypothesize that building bridges is the same as jousting with windmills and fighting illusions? Ridiculous!

(3) Compared himself to Frederick Douglass — how does one come to such a conclusion merely by looking at a billboard? Talk about exaggeration!

(4) Does not have the support of BUILD — how many people who are members of BUILD were actually polled?

(5) will most likely stay until the end — why not? Particularly if he has already been declared the winner.

(6) Is counting on getting a large percentage of white votes — don't you believe in a just government for all?

It seems to me that someone or some people at your paper have a personal vendetta against Rev. Phillips. And, it is not he who is out to draw blood, as stated, but you. This being another one of Mr. Jones' conjectures.

LOIS T. NIXON

* * *

The editorial piece on the Seventh District Campaign was very disappointing, because it was based on conjecture rather than facts.

I feel that it was a disservice to Del Phillips, who has a long and honored record of service to the people of Baltimore, and to his many supporters who are working hard to get him elected to the Congress.

If you decided to feature this election in the future issue, we suggest that you at least do some research. As a long time citizen of Baltimore and this state it is obvious to me that you need more information.

LaVERNE JONES

1986

MAY