I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed:
"We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal."

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. — 1929-1968.

OPINION

Baltimore Afro-American

FOUNDED Aug. 15, 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1840-1922. Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO - AMERICAN Co., of Baltimore City Inc.

May we let our light so shine that it will illuminate that, which is good and beautiful and magnify our Father, which is in Heaven.
CARL MURPHY (1892-1967)
Editor-Publisher.
(1922-1967)

Judgeship cheap shots

Supreme Bench Judge Joseph C. Howard apparently is favored for the next federal district court judgeship to open up here and it is obvious that the power structure isn't happy about it.

Over the years, in various positions, Judge Howard has proved to be more than just average in the legal profession, he has shown himself capable of working with people at all levels and he has been strong for justice and fair play.

To some, it does not seem to matter whether a man consistently is proven right when he has been critical; as long as he is a black man who stands up against injustice, The power structure finds a way to slander his good name and cast reflections on his work.

Thus it is that accounts of Judge Howard's likely nomination to a federal judgeship results in the calling forth of questionable and unverified views of various lawyers that Judge Howard sometimes reflects religious, racial or ethnic bias.

This is a kind of generalized slur that if repeated often enough can do damage to a man's reputation even though the charges have no merit at all.

The AFRO has a challenge for the publishers of the poll and those who repeat its dubious findings.

Why not, instead of repeating scandalous, unverified views of lawyers, cite specific cases?

Why not cite for the public instances when as a judge Mr. Howard displayed religious bias, or racial bias or ethnic bias?

We don't think either the polltakers nor those detractors who continue to repeat its dubious findings will provide specifics to the public nor to officials repsonsible for selecting the next federal judge for Maryland.

Judge Howard's public record is one of fighting against religious, racial and ethnic bias.

To cite just a couple of examples, that record was reflected when he became "controversial" in the state's attorney's office by complaining that dual justice existed in rape cases involving blacks and whites; and again, when as a member of the Supreme Bench, he pointed to discrimination in courthouse employment.

In his work, in public appearances and in writings Judge Howard has always, to our best knowledge, stood tall for justice and equal opportunity for all.

We know of no specific case in which he has been guilty of religious, racial or ethnic bias. Until his critics cite cases, we consider them cheap-shot artists with their own biases showing.

One of the things he has been critical of, along with the AFRO, is the lack of blacks in the federal district courts of the South.

President-elect Jimmy Carter, who promised the AFRO he would make such appointments, would do credit to the federal judicial system were he to select Judge Howard.

Bill 13 would honor King

If ever there was a man who deserves a holiday in his honor, it is Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This great humanitarian was truly representative of all people—the exalted and the humble, the poor and the rich, the healthy and the sick, and people of all races, classes and religions.

As black Americans, we take special pride in the accomplishments of Dr. King and the principles for which he stood. We feel that the time is long overdue for Dr. King's birthday, Jan. 15, to be declared a national holiday.

The best place for us to take the first step in building momentum toward this ultimate goal of a national Martin Luther King Day is right where we are—in Baltimore.

That is just what City Councilpersons Victorine Adams and Michael Mitchell have done by introducing Bill No. 13 to raise the status of Dr. King's birthday to an official City Government holiday.

The AFRO wants this bill to pass. We want our readers to give it their wholehearted support. It is only right to honor such a great man. Dr. King deserves this.

When you think that over 50 per cent of Baltimore citizens are black, it becomes even more fitting that Baltimore should lead the nation toward giving Dr. King his rightful place in history.

The State of Maryland already closes its offices. Baltimore public schools already are closed. City workers in Local 44 of AFSCME are off. The rest of the city government should follow suit.

The city offices close to honor great white men—Columbus, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Dr. King, a black man with even greater contemporary significance, deserves no less.

National King holiday

Schools, colleges, churches, civic groups and some businesses throughout the Washington and Baltimore metropolitan areas will mark the birth date of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the slain civil rights leader, this week.

Some have declared the day (Jan. 15) an official holiday; others are marking it with special programs, and still others have closed up for the celebration making the day a paid holiday for employees.

What concerns us, however at this point and time is the failure of the U.S. Congress to make Dr. King's birth date a national holiday. For more than five years, a bill to make January 15th as such a national holiday has been allowed to die in Congress.

The new — 95th Congress — has an opportunity to change all of this. Dr. King's achievements and the man himself should be enshrined in the hearts and minds of all who love liberty and fight for freedom. Most congressmen have the habit of putting themselves in the classification of freedom-lovers and liberty-seekers, so it should be not too much to expect them to so honor a man of Dr. King's stature.

Numerous cities and some states already have joined the bandwagon and made Dr. King's birth date a holiday. The Congress should put the federal government in line so that it would be universal.

Of course, making a national holiday in honor of Dr. King is not an earth-shaking need in the face of the numerous significant and burning issues the new administration and new Congress face, but it is one of little routine acts which Congress does regularly which should be done as early business.

Act on freeway now

The time to stop the proposed encroachment of Interstate 95 on the central-city community just west of downtown is now.

Now, before any wholesale property condemnations and acquisitions of land. Now, before homes are razed and construction crews begin cutting the path through our neighborhoods. Do it now.

It will be too late when the only course of action left is to lie in the path of a bulldozer.

In last Friday's AFRO was public notice of a planned routing of I-95 right through the central city, not far from the AFRO's offices. The routing would cut off a significant portion of the city from easy access to downtown. It also would drive a wedge right through many communities.

And to be sure, it would not stop there. Somehow, I-95 — which now is interrupted just north of the Beltway, south of Baltimore — must be linked with the Kennedy Expressway north of the city. Other neighborhoods will be affected.

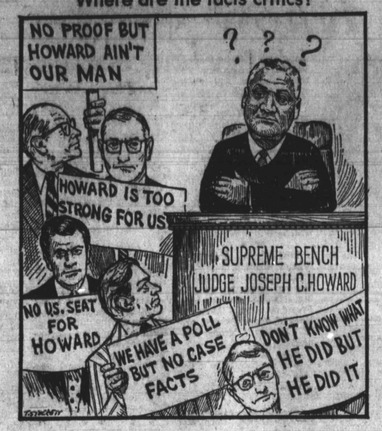
Hearings were scheduled for this week. Also, one should contact his city councilman, state legislator and congressional representative. Civic organizations should mobilize entire communities right now.

No doubt, I-95 is needed. But there are more humane, logical and practical ways of serving the needs of motorists than to sacrifice the needs of established community residents.

Highway planners are beginning to learn that in other cities and need to learn it here.

But they won't unless we, the people, take action now — while there is still a chance.

Where are the facts critics?



Washington report

Recognizing our roots, building African links

(Mr. Mitchell represents Maryland's 7th Congressional District in the House of Representatives.)

The current number one nonfictional best seller across the country is Alex Haley's publication entitled, "Roots." Starting with limited facts about his heritage that Haley received from his grandmother as a child, this black man has ingeniously traced his ancestry back to the African continent.

Haley's research and story, perhaps more than any other single document, is enabling black Americans at all levels to relate to the connection and bond to their motherland — Africa.

Even beyond Haley's book, black Americans are highly interested and concerned about our relationship with Africa. One event which clearly points out this interest is the African-American Conference held in Maseru, Lesotho (an independent nation located in Southwest Africa) last month to discuss U.S. foreign policy.

The Lesotho Conference was aimed at a meeting of the minds with our African brothers and sisters as well as a confirmation of black America's commitment to take vigorous action resulting in positive foreign policy changes in America.

The black American leaders who participated in this conference, in recognition of their African descent, declared their solemn obligation to nine courses of action to be pursued upon their return to the United States as follows:

First, to intensify present planning to develop a forceful lobby on Africa. This lobby will build a broad-based constituency for support of American objectives and a rational U.S. policy towards Africa.

Second, this lobby will provide a mechanism for meaningful consultation, through which Africans and African-Americans can communicate effectively to achieve desired goals. This lobby will also monitor news releases on Africa and seek a balanced and accurate flow of African news.

Third, through this lobby to work to influence American policy toward achieving the isolation of apartheid society of South Africa from all public and private support. To seek the passage of legislation, including tax disincentives, and appropriate executive action to discourage or prohibit further investment by Americans in the South African economy.

Fourth, to express outrage that at the present time, South African citizens are issued visas on an open and non-discriminatory basis by the United States, while many Americans are arbitrarily denied visas to visit South Africa and the right of transit to the land-locked Kingdom of Lesotho, a clear violation of international law. Therefore, to demand that admissions of South Africans to the United States be on a reciprocal basis.

Fifth, to seek to influence the incoming Administration's policy in the United Nations toward support of the liberation of Southern Africa, deploring current U.S. policy of opposition to effective United Nations actions on Africa, as reflected by the U.S. abstentions on the recognition of the Transkei and admission of Angola to the United Nations. To insist that the new administration support the imposition of sanctions against South Africa in view of its repeated violations of U.N. resolutions ordering it to cease its illegal occupation of Namibia.

Sixth, to press for the extension of increased U.S. economic assistance to the African nations who support the liberation movements in order to provide the Frontline and other nations with continued ability to participate in the struggle.

Seventh, to press for greater recognition that South Africa is the root of the problem of oppressive minority rule and violence in southern Africa and is a threat to world peace.

Eighth, to support the legitimacy of the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe, (the African name for Rhodesia), Namibia and South Africa to overthrow the oppressor by the most effective means available to them, including, if necessary, force.

Ninth, with respect to all of Africa, to support the effort to establish a new international economic order.

As a representative of disadvantaged peoples across the country, I will be working actively to assure that these lines of action will be pursued. I believe that black Americans must reach out and grasp the hands of our African brothers and sisters who reside in the land of our forefathers.

We must again reunite black Americans and Africans so strongly we will be able to say in a common voice that we are one blood, we are one people, we are one soul and we share one destiny. We must recognize our "roots."

Now and then — by g. james fleming

Carter: Adventure in faith

Like every other president before him, Jimmy Carter's accession to the presidency of the United States, on Jan. 20, is an "Adventure in faith." Or, it might be called a "journey" in faith. But, faith there is.

Jimmy Carter's overwhelming faith in himself; the faith of his family and close friends and, most important of all, politically, the faith of a majority of American voters in him.

To some extent, however, faith plays and extraordinarily major role in Carter's situation, so far as the people are concerned. The reason? Because so few people have known the new president over a long period of time, and because he has little record in the public arena beyond his two-year term as governor of Georgia.

And, as this column has said more than once, few people know, in depth, the coterie of "friends" and "advisers" who influence him most and who will be his "kitchen cabinet" once he takes over the White House.

From what we know and how we feel about the new President, he will be either the most outstanding President of the 20th Century (except for Franklin D. Roosevelt) or he will be the biggest "bust."

But, several pluses are on his side:

1. Most Americans, we believe, feel that, whatever happens in Washington during the next four years, will find Jimmy Carter exerting his every effort to do the right thing, to promote the right programs and to inspire all segments of our population towards good relations and the world towards peace. If there is failure, it won't be because he has not tried.

2. In the difficult area of minority-group relations, he has said the right words most of the time. His stand for including blacks and women on the different levels of his administration seems honest and valid. His position at the Plains Baptist Church shows his commitment.

3. He has given a great boost to the American public education system by deciding, with Mrs. Carter, to enroll his fourth-grade daughter, Amy, in a neighborhood, integrated public school, instead of entering her in a plush private school or turning her over to secluded tutors (We hope the Carters will be allowed to keep Amy in the Thaddeus Stevens School; the school seems ready and able.).

4. As notable and a real plus in the esteem won by the President-elect has been his meticulous manner of selecting Cabinet-members (We keep our fingers crossed on Attorney General Griffin B. Bell). Any reader of this column would people his Cabinet differently but, for this point in history, and with this particular President, the system calls for giving him the advantage of having his own team, "with the advice and consent of the Senate."

5. It should not be overlooked, too, that Mr. Carter has shown, so far, that he does his necessary "homework" and that he has a capacity for grasping new ideas and new information quickly and clearly.

President Carter will find that the greatest nut he has to crack will be the domestic economy. The next will be the achievement of world peace, according to a blueprint which the USA can live with.

These will be most troublesome areas to the new President because they cannot be resolved or solved by his dictum, and because many forces have decisive power over them, beyond the control of the President or the Congress.

Private business and the labor unions can stifle or stop improvement in employment, and the OPEC nations can halt or slow down American industry by raising petroleum prices and limiting fuel supply. The Communist bloc countries can force the USA into a war budget it does not prefer.

In other words, there are outside factors, influences and situations which can bring great impact on the Carter administration, for better or for worse. Mindful of all his pluses and his minuses, this column joins its many readers in wishing the new President "Best wishes for a healthful, constructive and successful career as President of the United States."

A little about a lot — by madeline w. murphy

The state budget process needs reform

With the opening of the General Assembly, taxes will be of overriding concern.

Where to get the money? How the constituency will take it, not only in light of the $40 billion budget, or the $100 million short-fall, but also because of the vulnerability of the legislators in the up-coming elections in '78.

Of the three major taxing sources, property, sales and income, it is an even bet that the least obnoxious tax will be an increased one cent on the sales tax.

The governor already has decided on the budget. The process begins early in summer to meet the constitutional deadline, Nov. 10, when it must be submitted to the General Assembly. No deficit spending is allowed by the constitution, and the legislature can do nothing but make cuts.

Del. John Douglass, at the Mini-Forum held by the Maryland Conference of Social Concern in October, aptly and flatly declared: "Maryland's legislature is one of the three weakest in the nation. The legislature has no part in forming the budget and cannot shift funds. It can simply confirm or deny what the governor proposes, and usually confirms 100 per cent."

Consequently, the main thing the governor will do with agency budgets is to limit their needs, since his priorities are very often in conflict with theirs.

Most revealing at the Mini-Forum last October, was the disquieting statement offered by Lt. Governor Blair Lee, in his keynote address:

"Welfare recipients have not had a bad record with a six and one-half per cent increase in January, and July of '74; seven per cent in July of '75, and a switch to a flat grant system that amounted to a nine per cent increase.

"A bill enacted last year required an additional five per cent for '78 related to the consumer price index, but it will also be necessary to give the state employees an increase of five per cent, so where do the welfare people get off?

"The same goes for retirees who have a consumer index bill."

And this is the final clincher as to welfare recipients from the lips of Blair Lee: "We'll do the right thing for the active working (emphasis mine) employees of the state who have been left out."

So welfare recipients as usual will get the short end of the stick from a virulent form of Social Darwinism — "survival of the fittest" — and perhaps in the new budget, the bill for the '78 increase will be reneged on.

Moreover, as revealed by Del. Walter Dean at the same forum, balancing the budget each year is a matter of gimmickry which has created the illusion of a balanced budget when there have not been sufficient funds to support programs at existing levels, and as elaborated by Del. Benj. Cardin, support for some of these programs comes through the use of one-time revenue sources.

Finally, since median per capita income for Maryland is $11,029, and Baltimore City's position at $7,100, makes it the 22nd poorest out of the 24 sub-divisions, real help in distribution of the tax dollar is in question.

The old adage probably will ring true again that "them what has, gits."

Therefore, the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus has a great responsibility to push for constitutional changes in regard to the budget, that would give back power to the people's representatives, away from an all too powerful governor.

Then the legislature could independently present its own budget, while scarcely reviewing the governor's budget, substitute its own and be mainly responsible for finding new sources of revenue that would be more equitable.

FOOTNOTES: On a recent visit to Chicago, I came upon a well known black pathologist from the University of Chicago, who reaffirmed the view that the swine flu vaccine is useless.

In addition he warned that the production of swine flu vaccine has kept back production of more vital vaccines such as for measles, where there could be a real threat of an epidemic this spring.

He further stated that there has never been a documented threat of swine flu, and that there is no way of judging whether the 1918 flu epidemic could justly be called a swine flu epidemic.

Furthermore, viruses travelling around the world constantly change characteristics over the years and become mutant anyway.

In the recent flag waving discussion over the Star Spangled Banner not being sung at the Super Bowl game (America the Beautiful, substituted instead), Comptroller Hyman Pressman opted in his complaint for a militancy, parochialism accompanied by an inability to commit two stanzas to memory of his favorite national anthem. How much better than bombs bursting in air is the beauty, the supremacy of God, and the appeal for brotherhood in the stirring hymn:

"Oh, beautiful, for spacious skies
for amber waves of grain, for
purple mountain majesties above
the fruited plain. America!
America! God shed his grace on
thee, and crown thy good with
brotherhood, from sea to shining
sea!"

And most of all, how melodious and easy to sing!

People are reading

Books most often requested at the branches of the Enoch Pratt Free Library are listed below. If the one you want is not immediately available, the librarian can suggest another which you might enjoy.

NONFICTION

JUDY, Gerold Frank (ML420.G253F7)
A MAN CALLED INTREPID, William Stevenson (D810.S8S78)
CHANGE LOBSTERS AND DANCE, Lillie Palmer (PN 2658.03A33)
THE ROCKEFELLERS, Peter Collier (CT274.C64)
WORLD OF OUR FATHERS, Irving Howe (F128.9.J5H6)

A WORLD FULL OF STRANGERS, Cynthia Freeman
STRANGER IN THE MIRROR, Sidney Sheldon

AFRO credo

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God and in the present generation. It must always ask itself —

• Whether it has kept faith with the common people;

• Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved and their future assured;

• Whether it is fighting to get rid of slums, to provide jobs for everybody;

• Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and condemn injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

DECEMBER 24, 1920
(From the Papers of John H. Murphy Sr., who founded the AFRO-AMERICAN, Aug. 13, 1892).

"I am a man of peace; God knows how I love peace. But I hope I shall never be such a coward as to mistake oppression for peace."
Hungarian Freedom Fighter Kossuth

PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro-American

A-5 JANUARY 15, 1977

Helped Red Cross effort

Dear AFRO:

Thank you from all of us at Red Cross and from the people who needed and received blood, for the very fine support the AFRO-AMERICAN gave to our holiday donor recruitment efforts.

The articles on Dec. 14 and 18 including our schedule and the large photographs of Officers Hyde and Hawkins, were much appreciated!

The blood inventory today is excellent and collections have been outstanding for this time of year.

The assistance given by all of the media paid off, in assuring a good supply of safe, volunteer blood for our community over the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

All of us worked hard, but we couldn't have done it without you . . . and the good people who responded and came in to give "the gift of life."

It really is a good feeling being in a community where, when a job needs to be done, everyone pitches in to help.

Best wishes to all of the staff at the AFRO-AMERICAN for a successful and happy new year.

PATRICIA OWENS
Director,
Community Relations

Appreciated aid

Dear AFRO:

I just appreciated what Mrs. Santa sent us and don't know how to thank you.

The woman clerk at the store slipped us something extra and we didn't know it until we got home. I didn't go back because I didn't have the money.

I hope that you live to see many more new years.

CASE 703

Animal lovers do wail

Dear AFRO:

I cannot understand why you have printed so little about our cat and dog problem.

Assuming animal lovers are very few, I would think you would grab at the opportunity to give the matter as much exposure as possible if only because "the wailing of the unhappy minority sells more newspapers than the contented murmurs of the happy majority."

We animal lovers do wail! And not only for animals — we feel kindness to animals inevitably leads to kindness to human beings.

All cruelty inflicted upon animals, inside or outside the experimental laboratory, brutalizes the perpetrator.

Pain ends with the death of the animal but the degrading effect lives on.

B. J. SMALL

Stand up for yourself

Dear AFRO:

As intelligent people we have no reason to cry if we don't vote and then get the right laws passed to make things better. Next year is 1978 and a state election year. Now is the time to speak up.

Three subjects of special interest to black folks and other minorities are: (1) abolishing capital punishment, (2) repealing the handgun law and (3) keeping the insanity law intact.

Capital punishment has never saved any of the victims of murder nor will it save any future victims.

Capital punishment provides another "excuse" for murderous individuals to kill witnesses or bystanders if they commit a capital offense. There is always the possibility of mistake, especially since "we all look alike."

Repealing Maryland handgun law or amending it so that permits MUST be issued is one way to cut down on murder, rape, etc. While this may seem a throwback to "wild west" days of 1876, it is true.

The only short term answer to citizens getting raped, robbed, murdered etc. is to shoot the assailant.

Living in Baltimore is "sufficient reason to carry a handgun," but few if any permits have been issued to ordinary citizens. The handgun law must go.

The question of Maryland's insanity law has come up recently. The law already provides for holding Hopkins if he is still dangerous even though now sane.

Leave the law alone.

If anything, persons convicted of certain crimes should be sent to the hospitals instead of prison. These are crimes such as dope, child abuse, etc.

While it may seem far-fetched to some younger persons, Hitler gassed six million Jewish and Polish citizens during World War II. Hitler started out by blaming the Jews for everything going wrong in Germany, just as we blacks are accused of pulling down the country here in America.

Hitler started by saying only the "trouble makers" and "criminals" would be eliminated. We blacks in America have been the object of "law and order" campaigns, also.

Surely, at first only the "criminal element" will be eliminated, but eventually if one black can be gassed, they will eventually gas us all. Women and teenagers might eventually be caught up in this capital punishment thing if it is not abolished.

As intelligent persons, we and our brothers and sisters of all the other races must let our will be done in the legislatures and congress.

Drop a short letter or postcard to your state delegate or senator — Delegates, House of Delegates Office Bldg; Senators, William James Senate Bldg., Annapolis, Md.

ANTHONY CHERRY JR

Nowadays

"MOM'S GOT ALL THE DIRT OFF THE FLOOR--NOW SHE SAYS SHE'S GETTING SOME OFF THE TELEPHONE."

Poet's corner

Love

What is love?
It comes in so many forms.
Love of gratitude, love of appreciation,
Love of a child for his parents,
Love a woman has for her man,
Or, a man for his woman.
So often we forget what is supposed
To go along with love.
Understanding, forgiveness,
heartaches,
And, let's not forget the pain.
Oftimes there are couples
Where one loves or cares more than
the other,
And, that's not easy.
The sacrifice comes when
One gives a little more than the
other.
Sometimes love grows old
And one looks for something new
and exciting.
Just for a night or a day.
And, so often forget about the
problem or partner
The one who was there
When the clouds were dark, and no
light anywhere.
So what can one say.
Love is like anything else
It's just a chance.
Or, should I say, it's just a game.

ELEANOR Y. BOWDEN

Young Beat — by larry young

Politics and prayer go together

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

Prayer as a vital force in the lives of black people was affirmed by the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus on Saturday, Jan. 8 as we hosted our first Prayer Breakfast at the New Shiloh Baptist Church.

It was, by all accounts, a very spiritually rewarding occasion. It had all the right chemistry.

Our guests included Lieutenant Governor Blair Lee, State Senate President Steny Hoyer, Baltimore Mayor William Donald Schaefer, Congressman Parren J. Mitchell; Supreme Bench Judges Robert Watts and Milton Allen; Judge Ben Foreman; Morgan State University President Dr. Andrew Billingsley; AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers President John Oliver, the Rev. Vincent Thompson, the Rev. Major McQuire; the Rev. Robert Hunt; Ms. Weptanomah Carter; the Men's Group of New Shiloh, Miss Taylor's Culinary Committee and the Harold A. Carter Jubilee Singers, under the direction of Victor Myrick.

All of the above named and many, many others met that Saturday morning to lift up the name of Jesus. The speaker was the Rev. Dr. Harold A. Carter. He spoke on the theme, "The Face of a Leader."

Here are a few excerpts from the Meditation given by Dr. Carter:

"Somebody might call this luck, but there's no theology of luck. Luck does not raise up children.

Luck does not make a man out of a boy, Luck does not make a woman out of a girl. Luck is stuff that belongs to those who are superstitious and give credit to the devil that ought to go to God.

"I am not in this church because of luck. I do not pray to the god of luck. Luck didn't wake me up. Luck hasn't kept me in my right mind. I am here because God raised me up.

". . .And whenever people pray to God, the Lord hears the prayers. He can touch somebody who will be a leader."

One of the interesting things that happened after the Prayer Breakfast was the decision by the Young Adult Fellowship of New Shiloh to hold during the Baptist Evening Fellowship this past Sunday a discussion on "Can Christianity and Politics Mix?"

As a silent participant in this discussion, I heard folk express their opinions which said "politics is a dirty job," "a politician has a three-way responsibility: his church, his constituents and his conscience."

One said that a politician, like other-folk, has a Christian practice when he is in church and deviates from it when he is not in church.

There were some who quoted biblical passages to articulate their various views.

But sitting home that evening and reflecting on the discussion, I could not help but remember something that I had written many times in Young Beat, that every hour of every day you are in politics, whether you are interested in the price of gasoline or coffee or a new house or your mortgage or your car or a peaceful world, you are in politics.

Before I was elected, I was recognized, I trust, as one of many of Baltimore's active civic workers.

I was attending church before I was elected. I was a believer in the power of prayer before I was elected. I was baptized before I was elected.

In short, I believe I had my bearings all straightened out, and yet on the day of my election I was called a politician.

Well, I am not prepared to apologize for my present profession. Just recently I worked through the maze of red tape that had snarled the Walter P. Carter Mental Health Center from proceeding with its program.

A small church not in my community had sought recreational opportunities and land they owned to be used for an addition to be made to their church.

Most politicians can itemize over the years things he or she has achieved.

Now, I, for one, give credit for all that I do, to Him who has seen me through. Others might not.

In as much as there are politicians who have given folk reason to be suspicious, I am aware of folk who are closely aligned with churches regardless of denomination who are hypocritical, and if I were to spend more than a second thinking about it, it would cause me to be suspicious. Cliques are formed. The big shots (versus the little folk, who are closer to the pastor than anyone else) speak to some and purposely do not speak to others.

Several of my colleagues, with whom I was discussing this column, said that in their opinion, and I agree, ministers have to be in effect some of the best politicians anywhere.

In short, speaking solely for myself, I am just going to keep on doing what I think is right.

I am going to pray because I know it helps to pray. It helps when I am worried, depressed, hoping for something even when I know the odds are against me.

For those who want to talk about me as a politician, you may talk about me just as much as you please. The more you talk, the more I will bend my knees.

A test to get to know yourself

By James J. Doyle

LOS ANGELES — A new customized psychological test has been developed which can be understood and used by laymen to get a thorough profile of their characteristics and personalities.

It's a way of knowing yourself and how you relate to other people.

"Generally, self-awareness is behind everything we do, think and say," said Dr. Kelly Bennett, a psychologist and family counselor.

Bennett said most people have only undefined views about the kind of person they are being at different times.

"It helps to have a reference point to start growing, to have ways to objectively portray yourself in terms of strengths and weaknesses."

Bennett is co-director of "Insight," a computerized test scoring and interpretive service that developed the psychological test after two and a half years of preparation.

The uniqueness of the test, he said, lies mainly in customizing it to individual needs. It also is different in that it can be taken home and used by the person tested.

Historically, tests given to clients and the results have been kept by professionals and only given to the client verbally and in general terms, he said.

"Now they have something in their hands, something they can walk home with and review and talk about and criticize."

If professional guidance is not available, the test can still be used, he said. The method was being made available to industry, schools, churches, the military — organizations where a psychologist may not always be on hand. The cost averages $15 a person.

Bennett said the method involves a "whole person" test, rather than the usual fragmented approach to testing.

Some people, he said, want to measure only certain personality characteristics, such as attitudes about their interests, jobs, love, etc.

Others want a more complete understanding of their abilities, likes and dislikes.

The test gives a behavior preference summary profile with scores measuring the intensity of interests in several areas, and the percentage of persons in the same age and sex group who scored lower than the person taking the test.

For instance, John Smith disliked power-seeking and his score was two on the intensity of interest scale. Twenty per cent of persons tested scored lower than he did. He liked bargaining, however, scoring 10, and 96 per cent scored lower in that area.

Another area of the test shows how attracted he is to general tasks, such as business, mechanical, outdoor activities and so on.

On task descriptions, John found extremely attractive "philosophical problems investigative." His score was 10 and 97 per cent of other people taking the test scored lower than he did.

It was one of many series of questions building up the profile of John Smith's likes and dislikes, his preferences and how he would react to other-in general what he is saying to other people he comes in contact with.

Salute of week

MRS. VERONICA L. GILMORE

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

Mrs. Veronica L. Gilmore, personnel assistant in the personnel management division of U.S. Customs Services, recently received a special achievement award of $250.

The award was given in recognition of her special assistance and extra efforts in maintaining the flow of work" in her division.

Mrs. Gilmore has been employed by the U.S. Customs Service for more than six years. The personnel management division is responsible for the planning, coordination and direction of programs involving the administration of personnel matter for a staff of 1,000 employees in the Baltimore region which encompasses a six-state area and the District of Columbia.

When asked how she felt about such an honor, Mrs. Gilmore stated, "I am very excited but I must be honest and say that I feel I deserved it because I have worked very hard."

Daughter of Fred and Gracie Marvin, our honoree is a 1970 graduate of Forest Park High School.

Her mother works for a savings and loan office and her father works for the city's Highway Department. She enjoys sewing for herself and her family and is considered an excellent cook.

Mrs. Gilmore and her husband, Gregory, live in northwest Baltimore. He is employed at a local chemical plant.

They have two children, Tammi, 7, and Steven, 8. Both attend Hilton Elementary School.

The Gilmores worship at the Fountain Baptist Church where the Rev. Charles M. Franklin is pastor.

Mrs. Gilmore has three brothers, Christopher Marvin, a Social Security employee; Fred Marvin Jr., who works for a local press company, and Alvin, a student at the General Motors Institute in Detroit.

AFRO-Line is an effective AFRO community service to help you solve problems. You may also report errors in news stories, request corrections and complaints and inquire about AFRO news stories and policies.

You need only to write a postcard to AFRO-Line, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203, stating the question you want answered. Include your name, address, and telephone number.

QUESTION: My husband and I both work in different cities. Since the city in which I work is quite some distance, I have set up residence there. Is this legal?—H.C.

ANSWER: A local lawyer told AFRO Line that you may live wherever you choose, but legally your residence is that of your husband.

Your husband can charge you with desertion, which can be very important when deciding such issues as alimony and child support.

QUESTIONS: Please tell me what causes the greaseballs that I sometimes find in the folds of my baby's diapers after they have been washed?

ANSWER: According to information contained in the booklet entitled, "The New Mother's Guide To Washing Baby's Clothes," they come from the oil which you rub on your baby's skin.

Evidently you are not washing the diapers in hot enough water and-or you are not using enough soap.

A free copy of this book may be obtained by writing to U.S. Borax and Chemical Corp., Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 75128, Sanford Station, Los Angeles, Calif. 90075.

Where to call

COMPLAINTS

Of discrimination because of race, color, religion, national-origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical or mental disability or tension in your community, call COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION — 396-3141 or 396-3150

— of questionable business practices, CONSUMER PROTECTION, 383-3656

— on food, drugs, cosmetics, medical devices, radiological products, call FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION — 462-4499

— discrimination in employment, housing or public accommodation, HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION — 383-3680

— about phones or gas and electric services, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION — 383-2374

EMERGENCIES

AMBULANCE — 396-1111
FIRE DEPARTMENT — 685-1313
POLICE EMERGENCY — 222-5333
HOUSING, HEATING, LIGHT — 234-2172 or 234-2412

SERVICE

ANIMAL REMOVAL — 396-0218
CRIMINAL INJURIES resulting from robberies or assaults — 523-5000
DEFECTIVE SIDEWALKS — 396-3168
DRUG ABUSE COUNCIL — 383-2720
FOOD STAMPS — 234-2415, 234-2751, 234-2763
LEGAL AID — 539-5340
PENSION REFORM — 962-3914
RAPE — 366-7273
RUMOR CONTROL — 837-1188
SEWERAGE PROBLEMS — 396-6232
TRANSIT AND TRAFFIC — 396-3049
VACANT HOUSE — 396-4176
WELFARE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION — 233-4791

STARS AND YOU

ARIES "The Ram" (March 21-April 20) — Be careful you don't give into a whimsy. You may lose newly acquired benefits.

TAURUS "The Bull" (April 21-May 21)—You can improve your professional standing by redirecting an old talent. Keep your ultimate goal before you.

GEMINI "The Twins" (May 22-June 21) — An occasion calls for serious involvement by you. Others can not assume this responsibility.

CANCER "The Crab" (June 22-July 23) — Fighting fire with fire is not the order of the day. More effective weapons are tact and understanding.

LEO "The Lion" (July 24-Aug. 23) — Face a difficult situation head-on. Trying to avoid it may cause you to compromise more than you wish.

VIRGO "The Virgin" (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) — Chances are you may harm one relationship trying to help another. Further investigation is indicated.

LIBRA "The Balance" (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) — Your devil-may-care attitude can help get you out of one set of bad circumstances. However, it may land you on an even worse set.

SCORPIO "The Scorpion" (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Your chances for advancement may seem to be growing slim. Don't worry about it; just continue to do your best.

SAGITTARIUS "The Archer" (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Make peace with your neighbor. You will be glad later that you did.

CAPRICORN "The Goat" (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — Your determination and clear view of the future can bring about the changes you desire. Make good use of newly acquired knowledge.

AQUARIUS "The Goat" (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Be optimistic of circumstances others view as unhappy. Depend on your ability to let matters develop on their own.

PISCES "The Fish" (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) — An understanding mind in competition is good. Otherwise animosity may develop.