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. 13, 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1849-1922. 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
(1889-1967)
Editor-Publisher
(1922-1967)

Good amendment

The rush to get Maryland back into the killing business via the death penalty was slowed down a bit this week by the passage in the Senate of an amendment requiring that any jury sentencing a defendant to death must do so by unanimous vote.

The amendment was sponsored by Sen. Meyer Emanuel, D-Prince George's, on a 24 to 22 vote.

Pro-capital punishment senators claim the Emanuel amendment "guts" the death penalty bill because although a judge would be free to sentence a defendant to death it would be "very rough" for him to order an execution without jury recommendation.

It seems to us that if a jury is wise enough and responsible enough to determine the guilt or innocence of a defendant in a life and death situation it should be considered wise enough to vote yes-or-no recommendations on the state's need to kill the defendant.

The AFRO stands firmly in camp with those who say Maryland should pass up the temptation to revert to the dark-age mentality of eye-for-eye type justice.

The death penalty bills in the General Assembly will not improve the quality of justice in Maryland one bit.

As it did not in the past, the death penalty will not be a deterrent to crime. States and nations which do not have capital punishment, on the whole, have as low or lower rates of crime than do the ones that execute criminals.

The Emanuel amendment, rather than gutting the death penalty bill, is an addition which should be included if the state insists on getting back into the business of killing.

The prison deal

A lot of the people behind bars in Maryland's overpopulated prison system probably wouldn't be there if they could make money on the outside as easy as Gov. Mandel's political friends appear destined to do in the Continental Can Co. property deal.

You're either pretty smart, pretty lucky or pretty much an insider, when you can go out and buy a property for less than $2 million and sell it to your state government for more than $4 million the next year.

That is the good luck which could come to Morton T. Sarubin, a cousin of Irvin Kovens who is a buddy-buddy political intimate of the governor.

The Continental Can Co. property that Mandel wants to use to house an estimated 890 medium security inmates in East Baltimore would cost around $26 million to make it do the job.

People in the area are adamant in their protests against another penal institution. They have a reasonable argument, especially when there is an alternate step that could be taken.

The city jail warden has put forth an idea which would be helpful as a starting point. It would cost about $1 million.

But any option that does not include the Continental Can Co. property would take the profit out of the deal for Mandel's friends.

Hopefully that latter consideration has not caused the Mandel Administration not to exhaust fully other prison site opportunities.

Embry's move up

The Carter Administration reinforced our belief in its intent to move forcefully toward more federal involvement in the rebuilding of central cities when it tapped Baltimore housing commissioner, Robert C. Embry Jr., as an assistant secretary in the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Mrs. Patricia Harris, HUD secretary, could not have a more insightful, dedicated and skillful official in charge of HUD's efforts to rekindle the kind of inner-city housing actively required to upgrade residential and commercial development.

Embry knows the needs and problems firsthand. Better still, his record in Baltimore proves that he knows how to lead an effective war aimed at turning back blight and restoring properties.

During more than eight years as Baltimore's housing commissioner Embry gained experience in a broad range of needed central city improvements. He lived in Baltimore and believes in cities.

Mayors and housing commissioners, as well as citizen consumers, will find Embry a knowledgeable and understanding HUD official.

He doesn't just understand housing rehabilitation, homesteading, new cities within cities, etc.; he has shown himself to be innovative in these areas.

Knowing Embry as we do, the very fact that he agreed to accept his new challenge tells us that he has been assured by President Carter and Mrs. Harris that significant new attention — including more of the required federal funds — is going to be paid to inner-city development.

Other cities across the country will have a chance now to see why Baltimore, though reluctant to lose Bob Embry as its own housing commissioner, is proud to see him moving up where he can have a nationwide impact.

Labor and Mathias

Maryland labor leaders have been pressuring Republican Senator Charles McC. Mathias Jr. to switch to the Democratic party.

The labor leaders fear that one of these days the moderate Republican is going to get run over in a statewide GOP primary by that party's anti - Mathias conservatives.

And that would be a disaster for Mar land.

Reactionary Eastern Shore Rep. Robert E. Bauman appears to be building for a showdown test with Senator Mathias in 1980. The way the Republican party is in Maryland, Bauman might get lucky and defeat Mathias in a GOP primary.

That would be a painful blow to long-time Mathias supporters.

Many of these supporters have been hoping that Mathias would run for governor of Maryland in the next election. Even as a Republican it is thought that he could defeat either of the Democrats now talking about running.

Apparently Mathias is no longer considering running for governor. While labor is pressuring him to switch parties, the union leaders might have more luck with Mathias were they in a position to promise him support in a run for the State House where honest, intelligent and sensitive leadership is needed in the worst kind of way.

People are reading

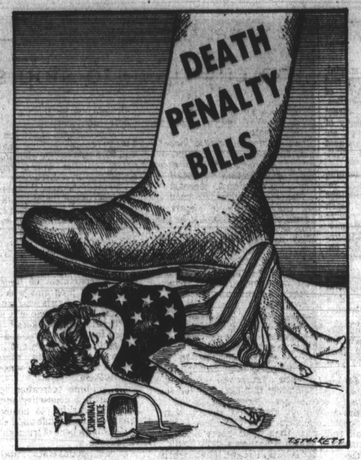
Books most often requested at the branches of the Enoch Pratt Free Library this week are listed below. If the one you want is not immediately available, the librarian can suggest another which you might enjoy.

NONFICTION

JUDY, Gerold Frank (ML420.G2537)
WORLD OF OUR FATHERS, Irving Howe (F128.9.J5H6)
A MAN CALLED INTREPID, William Stevenson (D810.S8S78)
PASSAGES, Gail Sheehy (HQ1064.U5S522)

FICTION

A WORLD FULL OF STRANGERS, Cynthia Freeman
CARRIE, Stephen King



Washington report — Black Congressional Caucus will stress economic growth

By Rep. Parren J. Mitchell

As many know by now, I have been elected to serve as chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus for the 95th Congress, or the years 1977 and 1978.

A large number of people, particularly quite a few from Baltimore, are questioning me about the direction the Black Caucus' activities will take during the next two years, under my leadership, with a new Congress, and under the influence of the programs and policies of the new Carter - Mondale Administration.

Naturally, I have many thoughts, ideas and dreams about where the Caucus should go and what kinds of things it should be doing. At this point, however, nothing is definite. Thoughts must be crystalized by input from my colleagues on the Caucus and dreams can only become reality with the unified support of those millions of black persons whom the Caucus serves.

Recently, however, I did discuss this topic with Oliver Cromwell, editor of "Focus" magazine, published by the Joint Center for Political Studies here in Washington. Hopefully, my general thoughts which follow, as shared with Mr. Cromwell, merit the consideration of the broader community.

"Under past chairpersons, the goal of the Congressional Black Caucus has been the total social, political and economic liberation of black America. Under my chairmanship during the 95th Congress that goal will not change.

"Even with the new optimism and hopes of millions of black Americans riding on an anticipated new sensitivity about our problems from the Carter - Mondale Administration, particularly during the immediate months ahead, the Black Caucus must remain vigilant.

"To do any less, the oral assurances and endless smiles notwithstanding, would surely be to jeopardize all of the gains we have made as a people over the years.

"Unquestionably, the Caucus has made substantial gains since its inception. In spite of the hostile climate which pervaded during the Nixon - Ford Administrations, for example, the Caucus was able to move the issue of full employment to a point of major national debate and the threshold of Congressional passage, act to assure the creation of a Congressional Committee to investigate the assassinations of former President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and secure the reinstatement of the Voting Rights Act.

"Hopefully, however, the next two years will provide the Caucus with the opportunity to shift to an offensive posture which will allow the development of alternative strategies to address those issues plaguing minorities across the country.

"In this offensive effort, key Caucus priorities shall be jobs and economic development. Black economic parity must be a goal. Without economic parity, social and political parity will never be achieved.

"In this effort, an even greater utilization of the tremendous reservoir of expertise and talent extant in the national black community must be made. 'Brain-trusts' and advisory groups to the Black Caucus in every area of concern to minorities and the disadvantaged, from national health insurance to African policy, must be formed.

"In this effort, black folks, perhaps more than any other group, must maximize the use of the political clout and sophistication which we demonstrated on Nov. 2, 1976, by electing President Carter.

"The Congressional Black Caucus' responsiveness to the needs of those who are, literally, responsible for our very existence cannot lessen one iota and, in fact, must be increased ten fold. In a like manner, the support of our leadership cannot waver or become divisive.

"Should we fail, falter, or let up in the days ahead, regardless of other changes around us, assuredly 'right will remain forever on the scaffold and wrong forever on the throne.'

"We will not fail!"

Now and then — Princess Anne. . .born in iniquity

by g. james fleming

Princess Anne College (now UMES), taken over by the University of Maryland some 29 years ago, was conceived in iniquity. Those who made it a branch of the University of Maryland were not interested in education. They were not interested in developing a better and substantial institution, much less, one equal to the University of Maryland in quality.

The powers-that-be were giving birth to a buffer institution, a Berlin wall, anything that would keep blacks out of the University at College Park. True to their times, they had no good intentions.

For nearly three decades, the college was not even acknowledged, by name, as having any relationship to the University of Maryland and, for all its years under UM, it has been a very much neglected stepchild. It has always been considered expendable.

We are not talking of a building here and a building there. We are referring to the priority given UMES as a part of the University of Maryland system; we are speaking of the programs designed for it, and of commitment to it.

No better way to check this charge than to look at UMBC (the University of Maryland Baltimore County). In years very much younger than UMES, UMBC shows all the signs of a loved and wanted institution.

Even a cursory visit impresses one with the money expended on what was, until recently, just woods. Its 6,000 students and its course offerings give proof that it is considered an equal partner in the UM system.

Not so at the branch in Princess Anne. It has been starved, it has been by - passed, it has been manipulated, it has been kept on death row.

In the new move "to phase out" and close UMES, at long last some outspoken friends have risen on its behalf, the most important of whom are the people of the town of Princess Anne and of Somerset County.

It may be too late for them. Long ago, they should have been treating the college as their own — using it, supporting it, adoring it for the cultural center that it was, and is, to all the county.

Strictly from their own economic interest, they should have long ago helped to build it up, since the college is the largest employer in the county.

Instead of treating "Princess Anne" as their own, they looked at it as "the colored school over there" and, until recently, were often, unfriendly to the college community.

Now that we have again heard how and why to close down UMES, the next step is to hear from interested educators and others on how to keep it open, how to increase its enrollment, how to revitalize it with new and needed programs.

If UMES is to continue as a branch of the University of Maryland, are there any programs that can be moved from College Park to Princess Anne? Should the next university expansion be at the Princess Anne branch? (Senator Verda Welcome proposes that a School of Veterinary Medicine be established at UMES since there is no such school in the state).

Could it be that UMES might prosper better as one of the state colleges under the Board of Trustees of the State Colleges. . .?

Are there any special programs that UMES may exploit and become specialist in, and, thereby bring more students into enrollment?

Can the state be sold on supporting a quality college, of small numbers, and then convert Princess Anne into such an institution?

Does UMES, at this time, need new internal leadership, or does its leadership need to be freed from the yoke of College Park?

Is the only solution the merger of UMES and Salisbury State College into the first steps to a State University of the Eastern Shore?

When this writer established residence in Maryland in 1954, there was much talk of "phasing out" (closing) Coppin State College. Officialdom had 100 reasons why it should be closed. But the people of Baltimore City, especially the Northwest, rose to present the case for Coppin, to tell how and why it could be a viable, contributing, accredited institution, serving the city and the state.

Then, too, this was during the McKeldin administration and blacks knew that they had a friend in court. This was also the time when blacks were showing new political awareness by electing the first three members of their race to the state legislature.

Now, flourishing Coppin State produces more elementary school teachers for Baltimore than any other educational institution.

"Princess Anne" (UMES) needs some minds and voices—educators, politicians and statesmen—working on how to keep it alive, not how to bury it.

A little about a lot — Death penalty: not too subtle genocide

by madeline w. murphy

If I had my way, I'd attach a rider to the Death Penalty Bill now being debated in the State Legislature that would provide the penalty of cutting off the right hand of every politician who has ever been caught in collusion with high powered contractors or confidence men to rape the government coffers.

Kick backs, cost overruns, conspiracies that provide special gifts of jewelry, trips, land, stock Swiss or Bahama bank accounts would all be part of the bribery count against them.

Caught a second time, they'd be converted into eunuchs.

Of course this butchery is what they do today to black South African diamond miners caught stealing diamonds. (The whole economic basis for apartheid and the resistance against independence for blacks, but then that's another story.)

Kunta Kinte's foot was chopped off also for economic reasons — his value as a big buck slave.

But you can bet that if this rider were tacked on, the Death Penalty Bill would be soundly defeated!

And though this may sound barbaric and brutal, even bordering on lunacy, it is not unlike the same Old Testament hysteria that is running rampant in the General Assembly today. For what does it gain anyone to main or kill in the "eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth" philosophy that permeates the minds and foils the mouths of the proponents of capital punishment?

Does it bring back the dead? Comfort the aggrieved?

Or does it satisfy instead the blood lust of those who get some vicarious satisfaction out of killing their main objects of hate, the blacks, who have been caught in the net of racial juries, incompetent lawyers, vengeful and opportunistic judges, where they are condemned to suffer outrageously in overcrowded prisons, raped, drugged, beaten and ultimately fried?

Perhaps you remember a case of privilege some years back where a wealthy white Maryland landowner who put a pebble under the accelerator of his wife's car, caused her to plummet over a ravine to her death.

With the background of testimony of his peers in influential high places, with a high powered landed gentry lawyer, he got out in one year and by now may be remarried.

Even so, this case verifies the overwhelming statistics that document that most murders are committed between "loved" ones and friends and also that its money, position, and who you know that makes the difference between walking the last mile or up Charles Street.

Worse still, however, is the information that while black citizens represent nearly 11 per cent of the population of the U.S., since 1930, 53.5 per cent of those executed have been black. One hundred per cent of those executed for burglary, 89 per cent for rape, and 76 per cent of those executed for armed robbery have been black. Does one need to look further for genocidal evidence?

Moreover, there are no statistics that bear out the claim that capital punishment lessens the incidence of murder.

For example, in the period from 1940 to 1944, 26 people were executed in Maryland. At that time, Maryland's annual homicide rate averaged 9.90 per 100,000 population.

Twelve other states that did not execute anybody during that time had an annual homicide rate of 2.9 per 100,000. Yet Maryland with the greatest number of executions had a 459 per cent rate of homicides higher than the rate of the non-executing states.

But on the other hand, the words of Attorney General William Burch tend to reinforce a kind of intellectual respectability to common prejudice when he states rather arrogantly that "disadvantaged" are the major culprits who commit most heinous crimes, taking the familiar hard lines of the governor and other proponents of the death penalty in Maryland.

Ignored is the fact that 60 per cent of the persons on death row in six states were unemployed at the time of the crime, 62 per cent were unskilled or employed in service or domestic work and only 3 per cent held professional, technical or kindred occupations.

Which all lends credence to one of Del. Walter R. Dean's constituent's forthright suggestions that "The main energies of the State Legislature should be on social reform, jobs, housing and education". "A person will lose his bitterness for being relegated to a status below that of a common animal and will be abiding and seeking to protect his investments as all other."

She recommends: ". . .get rid of the injustices of society and this will get rid of the every day crime. There will be no need for the death penalty, there will be no need for more prisons."

Concluding she pleads: "revise the criminal justice system—yes! (revive) the death penalty —no!"

Consequently, the unified voice of the Maryland Black Legislative Caucus is urgently needed now to say "Amen" to this constituent, to speak loudly, unanimously with Del. Dean against the Death Penalty Bill.

We blacks can no longer be used as the major victims of an unjust system that scapegoats, stereotypes, continues use as the prime candidates for the electric chair — a not too subtle means of continuing genocide.

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

Another 'Roots' message

Dear AFRO:

Since Alex Haley's and T.V.'s advent extraordinary, I've had the opportunity to discuss with many people the question of black people's survival in America.

This is phenomenal in and of itself, since this had become an almost taboo topic of conversation, even within the black community.

The point I wish to make here, however, is that there seems to be a consensus of opinion that the most significant aspect of the sage had to do with the portrayal of the African-black family as a continuous, strong and highly civilized entity, inspite of its many trials and tribulations, (i.e.), the white Americans.

And, for many this is a very enlightening and positive awareness.

There was however a much more significant portrayal of continuity that seems to have gotten lost in the high emotion that the film seems to evoke.

That is, the "Massa's" continuous control over the lives of black people, even now.

For although it is true that dejure slavery as such no longer exists, black people are still in the state of de facto slavery.

The key portrayal was that of the southern senator by Burl Ives. In paraphrasing the senator, when Ole Brer Rabbit wants to get something done, he simply changes the game plan to his advantage, but the game remains the same.

Tom and his family and friends, were as incontroverbibly locked to the Massa's land as so-called free men as they had been as slaves, simply because of the simple device of Brer Rabbit upping the ante.

It is of little concern that in this highly romanticized account that "Chicken George" subsequently bailed them out. How many blacks in reality had a Chicken George lying in the wings, then as now?

It is clear to all who would see that procedurely the game plan has undergone many changes, but that substantively the game remains cold-bloodedly the same.

Can any deny the necessity for affirmative action programs, equal opportunity acts and a host of other devices designed to alleviate the evils of "full unemployment" of blacks?

These devices have in effect the same "merit" as Massa's written passes and decrees allowed Kizzie's limited mobility and Chicken George's strained freedom, respectively.

Kunta Kinte received for his forced conformity a fancy tablecloth and warm cabin.

Today our cabins are larger and our tablecloths fancier, but the game remains the same. Sometimes we even have the illusion of riding to freedom in our Mercedes Benz instead of on a mule but the game is the same.

We have not reached the "North" yet. It is one thing to be prideful of our continuity as black people in general and black families in particular, but then we didn't think we sprang out from under a rock, or did we?

The larger question of continuity has to do with white America, still, and its persistent and continuous game plan with respect to us, irrespective of us.

Therefore, "oh great African," yes you are free, but due to a higher order of things and the ultimate which frees all men of this human coil, your people are not free yet, not then, not now.

We've just formulated more articulate excuses as to why we tolerate the yoke and shackles or grander lies as to the state of our imaginary freedom.

HARRY C. R. WILLIAMS III

Our power of spirit

Dear AFRO:

The intense drama "Roots," by Alex Haley, viewed on television a few weeks ago, stirred up the thought that after 200 years of black struggle for freedom, half the battle has not been defeated; surprisingly so among ourselves.

During the crucial era Kunta Kinte and his people existed, the savage treatment inflicted upon them by their oppressors, haunts me still!

If forgetting those dreadful scenes would cause me to lose the sensitivity I have for may people have been subjected to the fires of hell, then I hope the story of "Roots" remains forever before me.

My greatest impression was after all of, the unadulterated, uncivilized, unbridled treatment that the slaves endured, an immense spiritual strength still was passed on to generation after generation.

As "Roots" concluded, I wondered where along the struggle for justice and equality did we lose one of the greatest gifts we have always been endowed with, "Power of the spirit?"

This gift once replaced our ugly aims with constructive ambitions; selfishness with compassion; self - reliance; pessimism with hope, trust and faith; hate with love.

Personally, I feel that the spiritual power is still embedded, but lies in a state of lethargy.

Until we again become attuned with our spiritual selves, the true meaning of freedom can not be accomplished, nor appreciated.

PHYLLIS A. QUICKLEY

Big brothers may help

Dear AFRO:

As a big brother to our youths out in society is a big responsibility, now is the time to show concern for our younger ones who are open to self destruction. A big brother, related or non-related, may better show them they have a future, as there was for some of us who had their same opportunity.

But sharing our concern and experience with them and giving or showing them the love and passionate interest that some are probably searching for, we might just help solve some of our youths' problems.

Because some are mainly without homes or placed in small group homes which probably started from a family situation, etc. And you find some times persons are under a great deal of struggling to support a family and especially if theirs is a large one.

They come under a great deal of frustration income-wise, and other things pertaining to life, etc., that mainly sometimes draw them from giving to many physical things and you can see why it's so hard for them to face up to reality, and that some times might cause youths a great deal of frustration, also.

So then they search for these things, love and identity. Identity is a part of their tradition out in society and they are confused.

But as a big brother who also went through these same trials and tribulations I can now see there is a need and concern to share with people, and especially our youths, out in society.

So in helping and caring, maybe we can be of help to our people and our youths out in society.

Maybe as big brothers we can give them something they may never have had, which is love and concern that they start living up to reality and guide them to a better future.

CHARLES E. SCOTT
Jessup, Md.

Ford not president

Dear AFRO:

Last night on one TV channel, Channel 2, they had the ex-president (Gerald Ford) and put him on the air and called him the "President of the U.S. . . . Who would be better than him to present this final award of the people's choice?"

You know he was not the People's Choice. That's what Bob Hope did last night. I called the director of Channel 2. He was in California, maybe golfing with Nixon and the rest of the corrupt bunch.

So many people did not see it because it wasn't on the other two channels. But, just think of all who did.

Certainly it's going to get to Jimmy Carter and it's going to hurt him. He's doing so much and he is trying to do more. With this terrible winter crisis on him and he's trying his best. That was a terrible thing to do to that man. That was a slap in the face.

I think Channel 2 should apologize for allowing this to happen. I think someone should complain of a show where they call the ex-president, the president of the U.S. and bragged about his record when the man has no record.

I think the Carter family is a wonderful family and he is certainly trying to straighten out all this mess. I think they are all going to California, living close together and I think they are preparing to attack this man.

MRS. GRACE BARRACCA

Poet's corner

Mixed emotions

Let us play a little game
Using one big pot
With emotions as ingredients this
flavor can't be topped.
First we add a touch of trust to help
it on the way.
Then we add a pinch of guilt
together with Old Bay.
Next we pour a cup of Love gently,
mixing slow.
Because Love is best, when it sets,
And...is allowed to grow.
At last we come to hatred.
Oops, I poured too much.
No matter, I'll just counter with a
cupful more of trust.

MICKEY R. BOYD

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.

Young beat — The city drive to stop school hooking

by larry young

(This week's guest columnist for Young Beat is Mayor William Donald Schaefer.)

When a student decides to "hook" school, the real loser is the student himself. A youngster who continually cuts classes is cheating himself. In addition to increasing the chances of getting in trouble with the law, he is depriving himself of the opportunity to get ahead in his adult years.

With so much at stake, city government has joined hands will community organizations, parents' groups and the local business sector in an intensive effort to reduce truancy. Our motto is "Education is Everybody's Business." Our campaign uses the resources of the entire community to communicate to students the importance of staying in school.

These efforts appear to be making progress. School attendance improved by approximately five per cent for the September - November period of 1976, as compared to the same period in 1975. This means that better than 6,000 more students attended school on a daily basis.

It is significant that while nationally attendance is decreasing, we have actually improved attendance in Baltimore this past fall.

Many city agencies are cooperating in this project. One program used by the Department of Education, which has made a real impact on truancy, is called A.P.T. (Absentee Peer Telephoners).

A friend of a truant calls him at home and encourages him to come to school. This approach really means something to children and has been used successfully at two high schools where poor attendance is an acknowledged problem.

A similar program is Project A.I.M. (Attendance Improvement Monitoring), where 100 people working in 10 junior high schools and 2 senior high schools focus on direct communication with students who have poor attendance, contacting them at home, tutoring them, and supporting them if they are having problems in school. The Enoch Pratt Free Library uses its specially trained staff in young adult and children's services to identify truants, establish a rapport with them, and get them involved in library activities.

The youngsters are urged to get library cards, borrow materials and take part in film showings and other activities where they can participate in a discussion.

The main thrust of this approach is to encourage the students to go back to school, but this can only be done after communication and sense of trust has been established. The library staff can then contact the schools to meet the truancy problem from other areas.

The Department of Recreation has several programs which help reach boys and girls who are out in the community instead of in school.

"Street club workers" go to where the children are, and try to redirect their interests and involve them in community recreation programs, as well as counsel and advise them.

All full-time recreation leaders take part in a counseling-advocacy program, seeking to change the truant child's attitude and behavior by creating a bond of friendship and confidence.

These counselors maintain constant contact with the schools to determine other ways to best approach the needs of these children.

The Mayor's Office of Manpower Resources coordinates the Baltimore Summer Corps work program for 13,000 young adults. Some 1,500 positions were made available to the Department of Education, and only students with over 90 per cent attendance and good citizenship records are considered for these positions.

The Mayor's Office of Manpower Resources has also initiated an approach to youths who have spent time in a juvenile institution and who would be resistant to traditional educational methods.

"After Care Alternatives" placed 75 of these youths in the Harbor City Learning Centers, where they attend school and work in a subsidized job program. This program allows youths to gain valuable work experience and training, earn money and receive the necessary academic preparation. The paid jobs are an incentive to remain in school.

The business community has provided strong support and, more important, active participation in our citywide truancy approach. More than 17 businesses in Baltimore City, among them many large companies, have each adopted a school.

Employees of these firms are counseling students, speaking at school assemblies and providing plant tours.

Their assistance is vital, to let children know that education is important from the standpoint of the business sector.

B.U.S.T. (Business United to Stop Trouble), a group composed of owners of small businesses, has developed an audio-visual slide show which uses the talents of students, administrators and interested citizens.

This enlightening presentation, stressing the importance of good attendance in school, will be shown in schools throughout the city and to community and civic organizations.

Another aspect of our campaign is Project Open, a grass-roots community-based program which provides opportunities for citizens to work as volunteers in schools, tutoring and counseling students and meeting with school administrators to develop other innovative activities to promote school attendance.

I believe our campaign is working because we are united, because our message is being heard and understood both by pupils who are attending classes, and by many of those who are back-sliding.

But we are not complacent; we recognize that much more must be done, because there are still many youngsters we have not yet reached.

Our programs have one goal; to show students that hooking school does not pay. We are showing youngsters that cutting school is cutting out a lot of possibilities from their lives, possibilities for good jobs and for better futures.

The schools, the city agencies, businesses and the communities are continuing to prove that "Education is Everybody's Business."

Salute of the week

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

In the spotlight this week is the Morgan State University NAACP Chapter.

The chapter, which was founded by the young evangelical minister, the Rev. Hugh M. Daniels, who was presented the charter for the chapter to Morgan State University April 12, 1976. The chapter motto is "Remember Dr. King."

The chapter president is the Rev. Mr. Daniels. Other officers include Larry Causion, vice president; secretary, Barry Brooks; and treasurer, Arvonette, all of whom are executive board members.

Other members of the executive board are John Calhoun, S.G.A. president; Gary Lockett, Yearbook editor; Kimmy Williams, vice president of Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship, Inc. (GPG); Kenneth Woods, a member of (GPG), national board member of GPG; Bridget Owens, editor-in-chief of "Spokesman" Newspaper, and Patricia Acty, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

The College Chapter's goal is to bring people back to God, clean up oppressed ghettos, raise $1 million by summer. One fourth would go to Morgan's future School of Religion, one fourth to be divided between the college branch and the city branch of the NAACP and one half to the national branch.

The Rev. Mr. Daniels is a penal evangelist of Union Baptist Church, an evangelistic minister of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church and co-pastor of the Baltimore Deliverance Tabernacle, 2129 W. Pratt St.

It is the Rev. Mr. Daniels' hope that all corporations, businesses and individuals help make Morgan a top university and the NAACP as powerful as it has been in the past, founded and built upon God.

The Rev. Mr. Daniels says, "There is no limit to what God can do. I know God has ordained me a bishop to straighten out the diseased congregations of Baltimore."

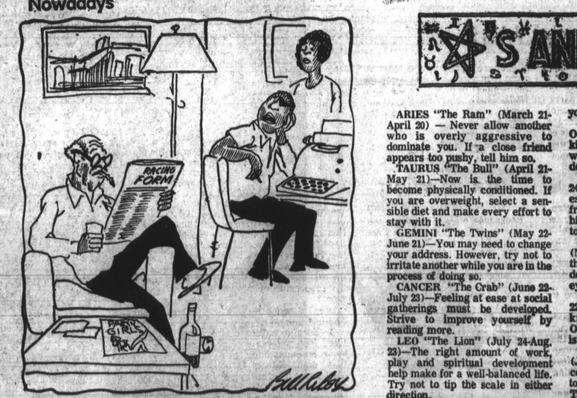
The new president expects to receive a degree in accounting in May, 1977.

MORGAN UNIVERSITY NAACP CHAPTER
(L to R—Arvonette Burrell, treasurer; Larry H. Causion, vice president; the Rev. Hugh M. Daniels, president and Barry Brooks, secretary

Smile

A three-year-old girl saw a huge boxer on the street. She ran toward the dog, shouting, "Hi, doggie!!" The dog responded and loped toward her, stopping just when they were nose to nose. The little girl looked at him with a bewildered expression, and whispered, "Hi, horsey."

Nowadays



EDITED BY TRUDY STEELE

Afro-Line is an effective AFRO community service to help you solve problems. You may also report errors in news stories, request corrections and complain 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: Several of my friends have called me asking me to dial a certain number and listen to the recording. After attempting for several hours I finally was able to make the connection and found the recording to be degrading to blacks and full of racial slurs.

This type of recording has to be made by someone with a very sick mind. It certainly does not lend for good race relations. Is this type of thing legal?

ANSWER: AFRO Line has had several calls regarding this recording. A check with the C. and P. Telephone Company revealed:

"Persons who pay for this service are free to say what they wish. There is no sort of legal action that can be taken. Unfortunately, recordings of this nature are appealing to people. We suggest they don't call the number. It's like seeking out an insult. If no calls are received, then the recorder has failed."

Although it is human nature to be curious and make the call to see what it is all about, AFRO Line agrees with the spokesman from C. and P. Let's show the recorder that we are bigger than he.

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, 383-6626

—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

RUMOR CONTROL — 637-1188

SEWERAGE PROBLEMS — 396-0232

TRANSIT AND TRAFFIC — 396-3049

VACANT HOUSE — 396-4176

WELFARE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION — 233-4701

EMERGENCIES

AMBULANCE — 396-1111.

FIRE DEPARTMENT — 685-1313

POLICE EMERGENCY — 222-3333

HOUSING, HEATING, LIGHT — 234-2173 or 234-2419

SERVICE

ANIMAL REMOVAL—396-0216

CRIMINAL INJURIES resulting from robberies or assaults — 523-3060

DEFECTIVE SIDEWALKS — 396-3168.

DRUG ABUSE COUNCIL — 383-2720

FOOD STAMPS — 234-2413, 234-2782, 234-2768

LEGAL AID — 539-5340

PENSION REPORM — 962-0914

RAPE — 366-7273

RAT AND INSECT CONTROL — 396-4416

STARS AND YOU

ARIES "The Ram" (March 21-April 20) — Never allow another who is overly aggressive to dominate you. If a close friend appears too pushy, tell him so.

TAURUS "The Bull" (April 21-May 21)—Now is the time to become physically conditioned. If you are overweight, select a sensible diet and make every effort to stay with it.

GEMINI "The Twins" (May 22-June 21)—You may need to change your address. However, try not to irritate another while you are in the process of doing so.

CANCER "The Crab" (June 22-July 23)—Feeling at ease at social gatherings must be developed. Strive to improve yourself by reading more.

LEO "The Lion" (July 24-Aug. 23)—The right amount of work, play and spiritual development help make for a well-balanced life. Try not to tip the scale in either direction.

VIRGO "The Virgin" (Aug. 24-Sept. 24)—Worrying will not solve your problems. Look for solutions. This may be a simpler task than you realize.

LIBRA "The Balance" (Sept. 25-Oct. 23) — Make every effort to be kind and understanding to fellow workers. Their problems may go deeper than you think.

SCORPIO "The Scorpion" (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Your adventurous escapades are startling to your friends. However, results will prove highly satisfactory and profitable to you.

SAGITTARIUS "The Archer" (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)—You are blind to the fault of another because of your great affection to them. Open your eyes, for there is plenty to see.

CAPRICORN "The Goat" (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)—Confide only in one you know will keep your secret. Otherwise the world will know what is just meant for a select few.

AQUARIUS "The Water Bearer" (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Higher ups are certainly aware of your readiness to move ahead. Be a little patient. The time isn't ripe yet.

PISCES "The Fish" (Feb. 20-March 20)—It will be well if you demonstrate perfection for another now. You may regret a delay.