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., 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 (1889-1967) Editor-Publisher (1922-1967)

Provident Hospital's direction?

We must now turn our gaze toward Provident Hospital.

It is one of the oldest of our community's institutions, and countless Baltimoreans have been born within its old and new walls, as many more healed. Provident, then and now, touches a great many lives.

This combination of history and continuing utility prompts our concern:

In our recent editions it was reported that the two ranking Provident administrators, Dennis Gowie, executive director, and Surender Dhrwan, director of finance, have resigned.

Further, Gunther Borris, chairman of the budget and finance committee, has said goodbye.

His resignation, it is felt, was out of sympathy with Gowie and Dhrwan, and as a result of his (Borris') obvious disagreement with his fellow board members over fiscal policy.

All this "leave-taking, we understand, was due to increasing pressure on Gowie from elements of the Provident board. The board in turn was getting much heat from some of the hospital's medical leadership.

In such institutional conflict, the will of the working physicians, if they are at all acting from a collective strength, usually prevails.

Even Mr Gowie's strongest critics laud his ability as a hospital manager. He had Provident in the profit column. He ran a tight ship.

"Too tight" even his supporters might agree. Gowie's relationships with staff under his dominion were not exactly sweetness and light.

Gowie just might combine the opposite ends of his rich West Indies heritage. Brilliance commingled with discipline, arrogance and pride blended with ardor. No easy task - master was he nor did he suffer much of anyone gladly.

But you cannot have it both ways as the Provident board obviously and reluctantly concluded.

To get so unwieldy an apparatus as a metropolitan hospital to run smoothly and at a profit is no easy proposition. A hard-driving, tough executive is usually required to bring all this about.

Which Gowie was and his departure marks the latest instance whereupon an official got cut down for doing a good job.

The outgoing executive director fell short in other areas the board must have felt were important to the hospital's well-being.

While no one within the Provident community wants to talk about it, the fact of Gowie's Caribbean background was a casual factor.

In some minds the job Gowie was hired to do and did well so far as we can presently see should have gone to an insider. Which means Baltimorean.

Where someone is from should have no real bearing on job performance. Where Gowie was caught in a snare, however, is that the recent influx into the Provident work force of other "outsiders" particularly East Indians, seems to have accelerated during his administration.

The arrival of other "outsiders" we think heightened for some Baltimoreans Mr. Gowie's own "alien" quality.

At first glance this is a petty and parochial perception on the part of elements of the Provident leadership which felt this way.

Again if the purpose of a hospital is to care for and heal the sick then its administrators do well when they bring in the best medical workers to whom they have access. Ethnos and place of origin have nothing to do with it.

The concern becomes less parochial however if the departing director and his number two man Dhrwan in any way and for whatever reasons permitted a bypassing of Baltimore's indigenous supply of qualified medical personnel.

Again no one wants to talk out loud about this sensitive point but we will put on the table the feeling among some at Provident that Baltimoreans were given short shrift by their own community hospital vis a vis jobs, funding situations, training opportunities, and program operations.

We hope this has in no way been the case.

There is an even larger concern than who exactly gets jobs etc. at Provident and that is how the job gets done.

The recent shake - up at the Provident top has more to do with the latter than the former.

To explain: Gowie's fiscal approach was drawing increasing fire. While he was no Mary Sunshine he was running Provident at a profit.

What is wrong with it, as certain elements of the medical leadership argue (successfully, obviously), Gowie is gone) is that to operate a hospital at said profit these days requires a reduction of unprofitable medical services.

For Provident to make a buck, to put it blontly, means giving up much of its historic function: a community hospital open to all with patients' ability to pay not important, and instead tailoring the hospital's operations to accommodate those, who either through private or public coverage, can pay.

At this moment Gowie's departure seems a victory for those medical and lay leaders who say Provident should treat people and profits and-or losses be damned.

II

Would that the battle was really all that clear-cut as regards Provident.

Now words comes that Provident Hospital is attracting some of our senior politicians.

Senator Verda Welcome may or may not use her influence to get another Gowie-type administrator to take over the helm. One is never quite sure with the senator.

Ms. Welcome comes late to the issue as she came late to the McDonald's in Mondawmin fracas. McDonald's in that specific location had been brunted about for years before the recent donnybrook.

Then there is Senator Robert Douglass who while new to the Provident board is calling for increased community participation in the hospital's affairs along with a more liberal fiscal policy.

So long as whatever these two legislators do raises the proper issues and thereby helps Provident more effectively serve the community's health needs, all so well and good.

But if for any reason the community's health must suffer because of politics for its own sake this would indeed be unfortunate. We would then be the first to ask Verda and Bob to go find another sandbox in which to play.

Beyond fireworks and popcorn

'beyond and fireworks and popcorn

For millions of Americans Independence Day is cause for joyous celebration.

By its very name, however, it can not be considered to rank at the top of the list of favorite days of black Americans.

In 1776 most of us here were in an outright condition of bondage. In 1977 far too many of us are still in intolerable and lesser states of citizenship.

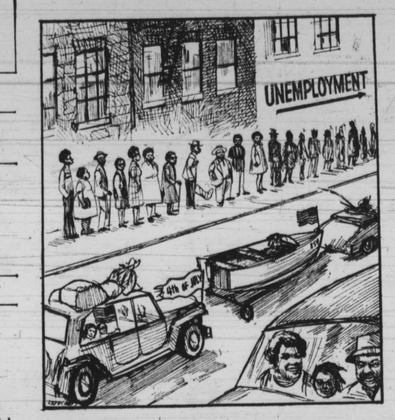
Most Americans can celebrate the events of Lexington in 1776, the shot heard round the world, with justification. That was their revolution.

Our American revolution is evolutionary. It is a continuing struggle, far from over.

While our neighbors may have some cause for celebration, July 4th for us should be an occasion upon which we assess how far we have come and how much further we must go.

After the fireworks and the popcorn of the Fourth, we still have the reality of our situation to deal with.

Celebrate when all are independent



Now and then... by g. james fleming

Good word for Dozen Club

Most rank and file Americans are anti-country club.

They speak snidely of "the country club set," similarly of "the horsey set" and of those who hunt foxes.

They are not as critical of those who are members of in-city private clubs, if they are Elks clubs or the Legion's or the union's, but if they are so-called "upper-class" or Greek-letter "frat houses," they are held in some disdain.

Sometimes, a "new" black country club has turned out to be a failing or deteriorating white country club that has been "passed down" to unsuspecting blacks. Whatever the route, most "country clubs" attempted by black enterprisers of black organizations have failed.

With all these reflections, this column was moved to follow up The AFRO's recent picture story which told, splashingly, that the Dozen Club had burned the mortgage on its clubhouse complex. We knew one member of the club, so we asked for an audience. We questioned him. We asked to visit the clubhouse, which we did, and discovered Queenstown, two miles south of the Baltimore-Washington International Airport.

We were looking for both plusses and minuses. Even if we had gone to Crown, we would have found ourselves leaving with praise, as we found out more about the men who make up the Dozen Club, the club itself and the clubhouse venture. And as we found out about the cooperating wives of the men.

First of all, the clubhouse and its grounds are not a "country club" in atmosphere or in the traditional sense of the term. It was not conceived to bar anyone because of race, religion, color or sex. It has no bar; it has no golf course; its members are not given to outlandish living.

The Dozen Club was organized in 1964. It grew out of the fact that the members' wives were already organized (some 20 years earlier) as the Casualettes and the husbands had found themselves together frequently anyway.

Once organized, the men found themselves often grumbling over the fact that "I was paying so much money for meetings, banquets and dances to somebody else," to use the words of one member.

Then one evening, a member asked his counterparts: "Why don't we look around and see if we can't find some property where we can build something of our own?" the idea caught fire among both the men and their wives.

They started looking. In late 1969 or early 1970, they found a 5-acre tract, with a reasonable price tag. The members voted to tax themselves, payable over several months. They bought the land. Then they started looking for a construction loan. As might be expected, the banks did not meet them with open arms, but, eventually, Equitable Trust picked up the mortgage, payable over 10 years. The Dozen Club paid off the loan in 6 years. The building opened in May, 1971.

This column was very pleased to find that the general contractor was a black man, Herbert C. Lee, and that the cement work, the electric installations, and the landscaping were also done by black artisans.

There were also contractors who were not black. For instance, constructing the swimming pool, sinking a well, building the septic tank, installing the plumbing and kitchen and air-conditioning were done by white contractors.

The Dozen Club was concerned in seeing black contractors were not bypassed as the club paid for its clubhouse (An example of spreading the dollar, of the "Double Duty Dollar").

The club is also a good neighbor. It turns over all its recreational facilities every Wednesday to the children of the nearby community for the enjoyment of swimming, basketball, horseshoes, badminton, volleyball and several table games — the same facilities the members of the club, their wives and their friends enjoy.

The clubhouse and grounds are also available to non-member groups on certain days and evenings during the week, in the spirit of "sharing" rather than as a business. The clubhouse proper accommodates 100 for dancing. So, it will in no way put any commercial establishment out of business). While, as already stated there is no going bar, each member has his own locker with his own "supplies."

Another plus for the Dozen Club is that all its energy and talents are not used in supporting and operating the clubhouse. The members are not only individual property owners, they are also active in several churches; they hold membership in the NAACP and subscribed to its Mississippi Defense Fund and they belong in other organizations, from the Masons to the Guardsmen.

Some are executives in big-name corporations; some are policemen (the Casualettes were first all wives of policemen); some have their own businesses. Only two are college graduates, but no "man from Mars" would know who is and who is not.

In answer to a question, one member said, "We do not have to fail; we are properly organized. Then, too, we and the wives were friends and trusted each other long before we thought of a club or a clubhouse. Most of all, we have personally done a great deal of the work ourselves, from clearing the grounds to painting. Our wives have selected color schemes for the rooms and have designed the draperies . . ."

"Best of all," another member chimed in, "our wives and ourselves can keep some of our money circulating among ourselves before it escapes us."

The Dozens consider themselves only in Phase I of their plans and dreams.

There are still the picnic grounds to develop and the stream to be rehabilitated and stocked with fish.

Incidentally, each member's original investment in the clubhouse ventures has risen six times in dollar value since 1970.

Washington report

Are minority groups really the target?

By Parren J. Mitchell

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

Every single chance I get, as strongly as possible, I try and sound the warning that minority groups in America must be eternally vigilant against an erosion of gains we have made in the past.

I stress that there still exists a great number who fervently are convinced that "those folks have come too far too fast."

In speeches I attempt to depict the present national policy of fighting inflation first, recession second, and unemployment dead last. Through service on the House Budget Committee and the House Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs Committee, I often raise questions about the long-range impact of "zero-based budgeting" on the poor, black and working poor. On occasion, I have suggested that a hard look be taken at whether or not minority groups are being used as that "needed pool of unemployed for capitalism to work," as referenced by Karl Marx.

Frequently, I am not believed or taken in the least bit seriously.

Sometimes disbelief reveals itself by the disbeliever stamping me as "racist," "a loud mouth," "a trouble maker," or much worse. I guess that is just an occupational hazard.

Other times, far more tragically, that disbelief is shown by the apathy and failure of response from those of "us" who have allegedly made it to "safe" social and economical ground.

In light of this blatant disunity, the attacks on all of us continue and they themselves become more blatant and overt.

Am I crazy? You be the judge!

During the week of June 13, the U.S. House of Representatives has under consideration legislation granting funding for fiscal year 1978 to the Departments of Labor and Health, Education, and Welfare. An amendment was offered to the Labor — HEW Bill by Congressman Robert Michel. (D., Ill.), which would have CUT the following amounts of funds from their respective programs:

A. $15 million for health coalition grants — which provide money for health professional schools to support their programs, including those targeted for minorities;

B. $100 million for Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act — a major provider of federal assistance to educationally and economically deprived school children;

C. $50 million for education for the handicapped — which supports programs to deal with the special educational needs of the handicapped;

D. $60 million for Headstart — which provides pre-school children with special learning opportunities and has been one of the most successful educational enrichment programs;

E. $231 million for basic educational opportunity grants — the federal government's major student assistance program providing grants for economically disadvantaged students to pursue a post-secondary education;

F. $20 million for supplemental education opportunity — which enables colleges and universities to provide additional grants to their most needy students;

G. $22.5 million for national direct student loans — where the government allows economically disadvantaged students to obtain loans at reduced interest rates;

H. $15 million for Senior Centers — which provide direct services for senior citizens and the list goes on . . .

Cutting the programs delineated above, in effect, would cut straight through the jugular of any efforts by minority groups to attain educational parity. No doubt about it; education is the key to it all: economic parity, political parity and social parity.

How many of us who are "degreed" now got there with the assistance of a National Defense Loan? What would the unemployment rate among minority women be if they were forced to withdraw their children from Headstart Programs, not to mention the immeasurable toll on the kids themselves?

Fortunately, the Michel Amendment was soundly defeated.

Next time who knows?

Such are only the babblings of a crazy man.

A little about a lot... by madeline w. murphy

"Criminal Code Reform Bill"

Senate Bill 1437 is a re-written version of Senate Bill 1 (S-1) called the "Criminal Code Reform Bill."

Senator Strom Thurmond, R.-S.C., is presently holding hearings on this most repressive piece of legislation.

The bill appears to be no different from S-1, that abolished the rights of citizens to dissent, protest, march; unions to strike, picket or demand higher wages; of the press to criticize government officials, expose government abuses or refuse to divulge the identity of confidential sources.

And although in President Jimmy Carter's campaign he reportedly abhorred these and other provisions of S-1, his Attorney General Griffin Bell, at his confirmation hearing, endorsed this heinous reform bill.

Senate Bill 1437 puts protestors under wartime law. For all the new code requires, should protestors cross state lines, is that they intend to incite a "riot."

From Right to Life advocates to Gray Panthers, as well as those who are fighting against the unjust imprisonment of the Wilmington 10, trekking to Washington by the busloads to demonstrate and protest, this bill would make them criminals. Because if it were proven that their intent was to incite a riot, they could be sent to prison for six years.

At the same time, S-1437 increases the power of the police. For an official proceeding, in the new code, is one conducted by any branch of the government or agency and by any public servant authorized to take testimony under oath.

This new power could well intimidate witnesses and lawyers, as well as observers.

Under this so-called revised reform bill, however, union members are most horrendously repressed because strike activity carries with it the danger of long terms in Federal prison. A union member could be found guilty of "extortion" if, in demanding higher wages, he places another person in fear of bodily injury.

Just imagine the power of Mayor Schaefer in this impending July strike of public servants, if S-1437 were law. Under Section 1722, he could, with impunity, cause the strikers to defend their actions in a court of law to prove their strike was a "bonafide labor dispute," the interpretation of which could well be skewed in his favor, given the political climate of Charm City.

And there wouldn't be enough jails to put them while the unemployment dilemma would be solved with hand picked "deputies" of the Schaefer machine.

And no one could do a damned thing about it!

Schaefer's dream come true.

Now, in regard to the press, Jack C. Landau, Freedom of the Press Committee member, in his testimony before Thurmond's Judiciary Committee said, "The new S-1 tightens the legal noose around the flow of government news to the public.

He explained, "This official secrets act philosophy, conceived mainly by the Nixon Administration, was and is that government should have the power to protect itself from public criticism and embarrassment by having criminal conviction powers to intimidate and harass the press into silence."

It is ironic that on the 201st anniversary of this country, our Constitutional rights are being eroded, bringing us full circle into another police state.

As the British so cruelly trampled the liberties of its colonists, today also there is such fear and trembling of the voice of the people, that more and more laws must be enacted to close the loopholes, and repeat the dragnet syndrome of that same oppression.

If John Hancock, president of the General Congress, should awaken from a 200-year sleep he would surely wonder if the Declaration of Independence had indeed been written on July 4, 1776, in vain.

And so, while in the rose garden, the broad grin and friendly handshake serenely masks the movement toward a police state, let us not be lulled into inactivity.

Rather, let us pledge on this July 4, to write — call or visit our Senators Paul S. Sarbanes (D.) and Charles Mc Mathias (R) so oppression of the citizens shall not be escalated in these United States of America.

However, to those who will not learn, history repeats.

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 perserved 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

Bird dogs and jail birds

Dear AFRO:

Please advise all our readers and particularly those of our judiciary system to please read, "Crime in America — A Turnabout At Last," in the June issue of The Reader's Digest this year.

Says the University of Pennsylvania criminologist, Marvin Wolfang, "We now have mounting evidence that a small minority of criminal repeaters commits a disproportionate share of violent crimes and that if we put more of these habitual offenders in prison we might have safer cities."

If Philadelphia's courts had sent each chronic offender to prison after his third offense, he calculates there would have been 7200 fewer serious crimes.

Eleven of our major cities have a C.C.P. (Career Criminal Program), compiling and keeping a record of its criminal repeaters. New Orleans organized the first.

In Pittsburgh, the city's 500 most active criminals have been targeted for a priority prosecution program to get them quickly through the courts and into jail if they commit new crimes. This group is called the hard core of crime in Pittsburgh. It includes the murderers, robbers, muggers and rapists.

Society must be protected from these dangerous offenders. Whatever they do when they are released they can not harm society while confined or closely supervised.

A few days ago I read where a judge sentenced a chronic offender for his crimes, to prison for a total of ninety consecutive years.

In other words, put more criminals in prison for longer prison sentences and we will have less violent crimes in the streets.

H. BEANE JR.

Mondawmin resident

Dear AFRO:

As a homeowner in the Mondawmin community for over 23 years, I feel involved deeply in the planning of this community's future because this planning will provide for many of us the type of environment in which we will spend our future years. We believe we would enjoy a measure of peace and wholesomeness rather than the turmoil and disorder that the city seems to prefer for us. We have paid our dues in property taxes and through improving our properties beyond the bare essentials.

Good citizens should have an opportunity to exercise their citizenship in an atmosphere of trust and confidence, but in the Mondawmin area, we find it difficult to feel there is any single body of elected or appointed servants-of-the-people in whom we can trust.

Surely, there are the fairminded individuals who represent the citizens of Baltimore in an admirable manner; we know who these individuals are and appreciate them deeply. However, too often the final results have been that our wishes are constantly disregarded. The current case in point is the Planned Unit Development — Ordinance 345 — which destroys the area which surrounds the Mondawmin Subway Station. We have expressed our wishes as a community group at every opportunity afforded us and have been ignored by city zoning, the Planning Commission, the Judiciary Committee of the City Council and also the council itself.

Planned Unit Development (PUD) was presented to us in much the same way as urban renewal is presented. We are told of the importance of our participation and input and we are given assurance that protection and beautification of the area around the station will result. But instead, PUD brings us the commercial blight.

Urban Renewal is deemed the best plan for subway station areas all over the city of Baltimore. Assuming that this is good, the Mondawmin property owners are offered a rosy apple with a rotten core — the Planned Unit Development at Mondawmin which forces upon us the deteriorating commercialism of a fast-food service.

From what I know of urban renewal, I favor it for our area, but only without the Planned Unit Development. This PUD represents a premeditated promotion of commercialism by the city into a stable residential neighborhood and is an action which can only nullify the effectiveness of urban renewal.

As a community, we cannot be served properly by urban renewal as it is intended to serve other subway station areas if, at the same time, the city provides such solid protection for commercial hamburger interests, which we have repeatedly made clear that we neither want nor need. (Mondawmin already has seven eating places).

What we do need is constructive help. Give us a library or a tutoring center — not a hamburger stand.

What is to be done when the blighting influences, as we see them, are forced into stable residential areas with city endorsement?

MRS. DATIE B. RUSSELL

Anonymous caller

Dear AFRO:

A note in the Friday, June 11 edition of the AFRO mentioned an anonymous caller who inferred that residents living eight to ten blocks away had no business participating in the demonstration against the proposed site for a McDonald's in the Mondawmin area.

However, efforts to save our black residential neighborhoods are all ready clearly limited. Limiting ourselves with imaginary boundaries is suicidal. When residents on the other side of the city face a crisis that could eventually affect our own neighborhoods, we could just turn our heads and loudly wish them well.

On the other hand, to preserve our residential neighborhoods, we could strengthen the cause by working together within the established system.

Obviously, individual efforts in some instances are not enough. For instance, the residents involved in the proposed East Baltimore prison site fought bravely alone and are now threatened with defeat.

Suppose for a moment that as residents in neighboring communities we had assisted the residents of East Baltimore with more than well wishes and demonstrated to city officials and the City Council that the systematic destruction of any residential neighborhood would no longer be tolerated. Perhaps West Baltimore residents would not be faced with a similar threat weeks later.

After all, the same city officials and City Council that allowed the threat of a prison to disrupt the East Baltimore community has also allowed McDonald's to threaten the stability of a residential area in West Baltimore. Representatives from districts all over the city make up the City Council and they appeal to each other for votes for or against an issue. So why shouldn't residents from various neighborhoods support one another?

Countless urban studies and statistical reports have shown what prisons and too many commercial businesses can do to a residential neighborhood.

So we can stand by and disgracefully watch our individual neighborhoods fail, or we can boldly stand together with strength and dignity to preserve our residential neighborhoods.

Remember, first it was East Baltimore and the prison, then West Baltimore and McDonald's. Who and what will be next?

EVONNE D. GREEN

Atom bomb 'deadly'

Dear AFRO:

President Carter appears ready to approve development of the neutron bomb which kills only (?) human beings, not inanimate things like buildings.

So it is human rites he has been talking about!

Fooled the hell out of me.

B. J. SMALL
Baltimore

Smile

Trying to strike up a conversation a friendly neighbor asked the little girl what she planned to do when she got as big as her mother.

Without hesitation, the kid replied, "Diet."

A woman came into the police station to complain that she had become so nervous and, as a result of her husband's mistreatment, she had lost 12 pounds. However, she refrained from making a formal charge, explaining, "I will wait until I lose another 10 pounds."

Young beat... by larry young

House of Good Shepherd

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

Urban America is beset by a host of competing wants. Which takes precedence? Production or pollution control, housing or tunnels, bridges or open water, highways or open land? And how should the decisions be made?

The political process is the final arbiter. City Council Bill No. 939 — To Permit Baltimore City Jail to Establish and Maintain a Community Adult Rehabilitation Center at House of Good Shepherd — is the problem.

By way of background: The Md. Legislature passed SB No. 418 which establishes General Assembly findings relative to the need for community-based adult rehabilitation centers, including the policy that to the maximum extent possible, these centers should be located and operated by local government, consistent with state standards and with state financial and technical support.

The Planning Commission voted three weeks ago to support Bill 939 despite not one person from the community speaking for it.

The City Council Judiciary Committee delayed a committee vote on the bill until after they received a report of the Town Hall meeting which was held last Thursday evening. At the Town Hall meeting were the City Jail, Warden, Gordon Kamka; Richard Friedman, Mayor's Office; over 75 community residents and yours truly. The overwhelming majority of the community folk said: NO, they did not want Bill 939 to become law.

I personally support the community adult rehabilitation center concept. However, present plans call for three, maybe four, such facilities in the 38th District. That's not fair — so, I join the community opposition to Bill 939 and will continue to support the opponents' quest for "fair play."

One of the leading opponents to Bill 939 is a stately gent whose name is Mr. Clemit O. Glenn. He made this statement at the Town Hall meeting I hosted on June 23:

—"There is such a great demand for correctional institutions, but yet there is no institution designed for the purpose of prevention of crime. The correctional institution has failed for the last forty years. There should be some way to prevent crimes.

"Some of the reasons why the correctional institutions have failed are: (a) The people maintained within the correctional environment have not been trained to meet the standards that our society has set. (b) Many of the teachers are untrained to help those who are inside the correctional walls to fit into the patterns society has established.

"For every prisoner in this state it costs the state $14 per day to maintain him. The persons in charge of training him have little or no experience at all.

The correctional officers consist of persons with a high school diploma, gun, handcuffs, patron and bully, at this time he becomes a graduate. The salary that a correctional officer will receive would be in the income bracket of $8,000 a year up to $20,000 a year.

"The time is now to put in use or develop a preventional center to prevent the children of today and tomorrow from ever having to go to a correctional institution. The center will direct them towards becoming productive citizens, instead of criminals which they might become without this guidance.

"I am proposing a program to be established to help all children of every minority, whether they are poor or rich, to become productive citizens in our society.

"The cost of the incarceration of one criminal for one year is $5,136, which broken down comes to a cost of $14 per day. The cost for one recreation instructor for one year is $15,000. This one person could train 30 or more children at a cost of $1.37 per day, or $500 a year.

"This kind of program will prevent many of the crimes that take place in our society today. The program will not be costly to the taxpayers, and it will not work against them.

"There are many people who do not believe in this kind of program because it may result in the loss of their job; but if a program of this nature is placed in effect, then the people who hold these jobs, such as correctional officers, will not lose their jobs but could be trained by going back to school and taking courses to help them handle such a job.

"I would like to present this idea of such a program being developed to the people. This kind of program I am proposing will not only help the children but will not cost the taxpayers that much. In the end result, the taxpayers will benefit. Instead of these children becoming the criminals of tomorrow they will become the great leaders of tomorrow's world. Presented by, Clemit O. Glenn."

Salute of the week

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

"Bill possesses that rare gift, an ability to successfully combine his mental, social and physical attributes to perform a myriad of tasks in unparalleled fashion.

"In passing up a lucrative short-term career in professional basketball for a long term career in management, he has in many ways begun maximizing his talents for the benefit of society. . . ."

Curtis L. Wren, associate director of administration at the University of Maryland Hospital is speaking about William L. Jews, assistant director of ambulatory services at University Hospital.

Mr. Jews was born and educated in Cambridge, Md. He graduated from Cambridge High in 1970 where he was a member of the local health training group, treasurer of the Student Government Association, vice president of Future Teachers of America, member of the National Honor Society and received the Daughters of the American Revolution Annual Outstanding Student Leadership Award.

He was named All District Basketball Team Member in 1968, held seven basketball records in 1970 and was named to Prep All-America.

Mr. Jews received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social and Behavioral Sciences from the Johns Hopkins University in June, 1974.

During his Hopkins career he received a four-year Johns Hopkins University scholarship for academic study, and a four-year Senatorial scholarship (Senator Fred Malkus).

He played Varsity Basketball from 1971 through 1974 and was chosen as the Most Valuable Player at the Middle Atlantic Conference in 1974, as well as All-Conference Player in 1972 and 1973. He was named an All-American candidate

WILLIAM JEWS

in 1973-74.

He was the only Hopkins player named to the Tournament All Star Team Eckard College in Florida and held scoring and rebound records at the Johns Hopkins University before graduation in 1974.

He had been named Most Valuable Player in 1973 and set scoring and rebound records at the game between Johns Hopkins University and the University of Virginia in 1973.

In addition to his athletic involvement at Hopkins, Mr. Jews was a member of the Black Student Government Association. He was chosen as a member of the National Work Study Recruitment in Hospital Administration under the Association of University Programs in Health Administration.

He was a member of "Community Conversations," a seminar given by the Johns Hopkins University Club and worked to recruit minority students to the Johns Hopkins University.

After graduation from Hopkins, Mr. Jews went to the University of Maryland as a member of the hospital's summer program for college students interested in hospital administration. He was asked to stay on as staff assistant to hospital management.

Mr. Jews received a Master of Arts degree in Urban Planning and Policy Analysis from Morgan State University in May, 1976.

At Morgan, he received a two-year American Society of Planning Officials' Fellowship from the Ford Foundation and received a U.S. Department of Housing and Community Development Fellowship sponsored by the Baltimore Regional Planning Council as well.

He became a member of the American Institute of Planners and was subsequently granted their Award for Outstanding Achievement in Urban Planning.

He wrote his master's thesis on Comprehensive Health Planning at the University of Maryland Hospital.

While completing his master's degree in Urban Planning and Policy Analysis at Morgan State University, Mr. Jews worked in the Director's Office at the University of Maryland Hospital as the administrative assistant for planning.

After graduating from Morgan, Mr. Jews was promoted to the position of assistant director for facilities operations, generally unheard of in hospital circles, which usually demand a master's degree and at least three years of progressively responsible work experience for such positions.

In February, 1977, Mr. Jews was again promoted — this time to assistant director for ambulatory services.

Mr. Jews is presently serving his second term as a member of Governor Marvin Mandel's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Advisory Committee of the Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

He remains a member of the American Institute of Planners and the Belair Jaycees. In addition, he serves as an unofficial advisor to numerous youth organizations. He is a member of both the University of Maryland Hospital's Community Advisory Group as well as its Ambulatory Services Committee.

NOWADAYS

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: I obtained a signature loan about two years ago and have paid back more than half of the debt. For the past few months I have been behind in my payments due to illness. The collector has called me several times and today he called to tell me he was coming on my job and I had better have the money. Aside from the fact that I do not have the money, I am disturbed at the idea that he is able to come on my job and embarrass me. Isn't there some law against collectors harassing their clients? — C. B.

ANSWER: A spokesman at Consumer Credit read AFRO Line the Consumer Debt Collection Code, Senator Clarence Blount's bill which was enacted into law in 1975. It is found in Section II of Title XIV of the Commercial Law Article of the State of Maryland, which refers only to consumer transactions.

"In collecting or attempting to collect an alleged debt, a collector may not use or threaten force or violence, or threaten criminal prosecution unless the transaction involves the violation of a criminal statute.

"Disclose or threaten to disclose information which affects the debtor's reputation for credit worthiness with knowledge that the information is false;

"Except as permitted by statute, contact a person's employer with respect to a delinquent indebtedness before obtaining final judgment against the debtor." (When it says, 'except as permitted by statute,' there are really almost no chances of them contacting the employer and discussing the debt with him until they have actually secured a judgment.)

"Except as permitted by statute, disclose or threaten to disclose to a person other than the debtor or his spouse, or if the debtor is a minor his parent, information which affects the debtor's reputation whether or not for credit worthiness with knowledge that the other person does not have a legitimate business need for the information." (That means in simple language that a creditor can not call your next door neighbors and tell him you are a deadbeat or something similar).

"Communication with the debtor or a person related to him with the frequency at the unusual hours or in any other manner as reasonably can be expected to abuse or harass the debtor." (This is the major one we use to get after these people.)

(End of Statutory Reference)

"There is really nothing illegal with them meeting a person at his place of business but we don't particularly like it. It is not specifically an illegal act.

"Obviously if you go to his home at midnight, or call him at 2:30 in the morning, that as such can reasonably expected to be "abuse or harassment of the debtor, unless of course, there is some extenuating circumstances such as the fellow is a bartender and doesn't get home until 2:30 a.m. Then of course it might be reasonable to contact him then and very unreasonable to call at 8 a.m. If the collector knew or should have known the fellow would be sleeping at this particular time.

"Anyone who feels he is being harassed may contact Consumer Credit, 383-3656 or Consumer Protection, 383-3700. Both have concurrent jurisdiction."

STARS AND YOU

Astrologer Jeraldine Saunders

ARIES "The Ram" (March 21-April 20) — Your instinct will not allow you to make a mistake where personal relationships are concerned. However, it may be necessary to investigate.

TAURUS "The Bull" (April 21-May 21) — Focus your attention more on affairs at home. Misunderstandings will be erased and you will feel better.

GEMINI "The Twins" (May 22-June 21) — A little affection is better than no affection at all. Try hard to give some as well as take it.

CANCER "The Crab" (June 22-July 23) — Your good deeds will bring rewards much greater than you even expected. Your enthusiasm for the success of others is also an asset.

LEO "The Lion" (July 24-Aug. 23) — Refrain from further spending until you examine your finances. High costs and debts will focus sharply.

VIRGO "The Virgin" (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) — Offer help to one who is experiencing difficulties. A mere word from you will calm all fears and doubts.

LIBRA "The Balance" (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) — Learn what associates expect from you and try your best to please. You will gain significant insights.

SCORPIO "The Scorpion" (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Advantages are open in the employment field. Make every effort to use the necessary "push" for success.

SAGITTARIUS "The Archer" (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Be sure to do a double-check for accuracy on all facts presented to you. Time for socializing will come later.

CAPRICORN "The Goat" (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) Invest in no projects until you have investigated thoroughly. Face value can sometimes prove to be false value.

AQUARIUS "The Water Bearer" (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Never allow gossip to change your point of view. New proposals aren't always good proposals.

PISCES "The Fish" (Feb. 20-March 20) — Your plans to meet with others will be more rewarding if you have your facts organized. Otherwise, it will be a mass of confusion.