

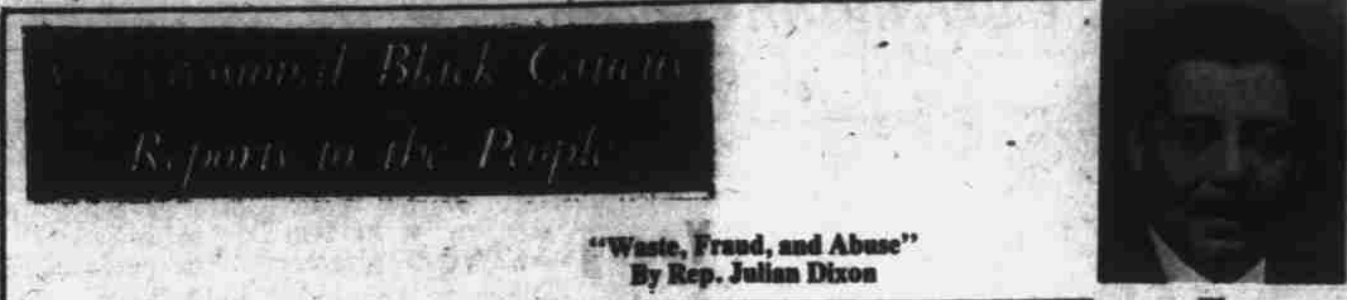
The language of politics is an interesting subject to many, a confusing one to most. The practice of not saying what you mean and not meaning what you say is, of course, a long established political tradition. However, its modern practitioners have raised this tradition to an art form which is at once masterful and dangerous.

The goal of much of today's political rhetoric is to confuse rather than to enlighten. Advocates of a particularly controversial cause or viewpoint seek to cloak their beliefs in innocuous, pleasant-sounding words and phrases to minimize their emotional impact. The use of this device is not limited to a single side of an issue: while opponents of abortion crusade under the "right to life" banner, those on the other side defend the principle of "freedom of choice."

Not all political euphemisms are internationally deceptive; some serve a legitimate public purpose. Too often, however, such verbal gymnastics serve to legitimize racial prejudice and retard social progress.

The best-known example of this came to the late 1960s, when candidates like George Wallace and Richard Nixon pandered to racial fears and suspicions by thinly-veiled appeals for "law 'n' order." Blacks correctly viewed this phase as condoning and even encouraging racial oppression, and wisely avoided these candidates like the plague.

Modern examples of racial "catch phrases" are even



"Waste, Fraud, and Abuse"  
By Rep. Julian Dixon

more subtle and discreet, but no less threatening. Today, opponents of social progress through integrated education extol the virtues of "neighborhood schools" and "freedom of choice," which too often becomes "freedom to discriminate."

At the federal level, "waste, fraud and abuse" have become the watchwords of self-appointed guardians of the Treasury, who seek to ride the crest of Prop. 13 fever and middle-class distrust into the political limelight. Increasingly, such simplistic and inherently regressive language has found its way into legislation.

Last year, Congress passed language which forced the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to specify and eliminate \$1.3 billion in "waste, fraud and abuse" in Medicaid and welfare programs. Though real progress towards this goal was made, the Attorney

General ruled that HEW had not sufficiently complied with the near-impossible legislative mandate.

Fortunately, HEW will not be forced to cut millions from its fourth-quarter Medicaid and welfare payments, as originally feared. An eleven-hour compromise between Congress and HEW will enable the Department to borrow off its 1980 appropriations. However, the Medicaid and welfare checks of millions of indigent and needy Americans were in legal limbo while Congress, in the name of responsible management, held to its ill-conceived position. In addition, identical language was inserted in next year's appropriations bill, so there is no assurance this charade will not be repeated twelve months from now.

This episode further calls into question the apparent fondness of certain politicians to seek simplistic

solutions to complex problems. In particular, it provides another argument against what Senator Edmund Muskie calls "legislating with a meat axe rather than a scalpel."

Most importantly, this episode raises some disturbing questions about our fundamental national values and priorities. One wonders why the so-called budget-cutters always seem to single out human services programs, while routinely approving defense programs and various forms of corporate welfare. Why, for example, is there not criticism of "waste, fraud and abuse" at the Pentagon, where billions of dollars in unobligated loose change lock around for ways to be spent? And why do so many of those who rail against "welfare cheats" and the like continue to defend the massive inequities and inefficiencies in our tax collection system?

These questions are obviously too complicated to be answered in the limited space available here. Instead, this skepticism, this questioning of traditional assumptions, must become a permanent part of the new "language of politics."

Certainly, no one in public office defends "waste, fraud and abuse." However, we need to recognize that no single agency or program has a monopoly on these problems. When politicians pretend otherwise, they are engaging not in prudent fiscal management, but, like earlier advocates of "law 'n' order," in political deception of the most dangerous kind.

I think we can agree that the quality of life in this country which is often preconditioned by one's skin color has never noticeably changed depending upon which political party is in office. In 1980 this nation will elect to be led by either a Republican or a Democrat.

Each new administration brings to the White House minor changes to titillate the press. Lyndon Johnson turned out all the lights to save money. Nixon attempted to introduce royalty to the White House through the use of uniformed honors guards. Jimmy Carter doesn't serve hard booze.

We can predict these kinds of changes to occur whenever there is a transference of power. But we, as Black Americans, must bear in mind that our struggle to survive in a pluralistic society will remain constant. Our lot will only improve to the extent that we stay on the case and vigilantly look after our own welfare.

At the recent National Executive Board meeting of the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees a resolution was adopted which resolved to serve notice

### A Postal And Federal VIEWPOINT

By Robert L. White

### Political Neutrality as We Approach 1980

on aspiring politicians that the National Alliance will support the candidate whose platform most nearly matches its own aims.

The resolution was an outgrowth of a widespread attitude that blacks will always vote Democratic regardless of the personal integrity of the nominee, and indeed there is some evidence to support this notion.

The message I wish to send through my column this week is that black people throughout the country must assume the responsibility of extinguishing this assumption.

We simply cannot afford to place party obligation before personal obligation. And it is the personal obligation of every Black American to take seriously the needs of our people.

Full employment, equal job opportunities, fair housing, quality education, safe neighborhoods, and adequate health care as a few of our needs. These are some of the issues that concern us.

We must examine the attitude of each candidate on these matters as they apply to us. Whether or not the

lights are on or out in the White House or whether or not French or California wine is served is of no interest to us. You may be sure that there will be ample lighting when any of us is present and the wine is not likely to be a vintage familiar to our taste.

It is an established fact that without the black vote Jimmy Carter would not be our President today. He knows it and we know it. This should instill a sense of power in us. This means that the black people in this nation are a major political ally with bargaining leverage.

It means that we are a special interest group whose demands must not be taken lightly. It means that we must articulate our needs to each political candidate and lend our support to the one who most convincingly addresses our concerns.

Political neutrality is the password for blacks in the upcoming election. We must make it clear that our votes are available to the candidate who makes it known that he or she is on our side.

This is the American way.

#### President Carter Will Have To Work Miracles To Get Black Vote

In 1976, President Carter received round 96 per cent of the black vote. With soaring inflation and rising unemployment, both of which place a greater burden on blacks and the poor, without a miraculous change in these conditions, it is highly unlikely that he can count on a significant black vote in 1980.

Many of the rank and file blacks have expressed the opinion, that, with no improvement in their living, President Carter being the Democratic nominee with no moderate Republican Presidential nominee, they will vote for other elected officials, but sit out the Presidential candidacy. They are also stating that since not all of the blame for their economic plight can be placed on the President, they will take a hard look at the entire records of the other elected official candidates. Blacks are beginning to perceive a deep insight into their voting process.

Blacks do feel that economic conditions could be improved, if President Carter, after having signed Humphrey-Hawkins into law would not have perceived that his job was complete, but instead that he should have thrown the weight of his administration behind implementing the mandates of it.



### FROM THE WHITE HOUSE

By ALFREDA L. MADISON

The forced resignation of Ambassador Young heaped coals upon the already flaming black disappointment fire in President Carter.

At the recent meeting in New York of black leaders from across the nation, President Carter's administration's handling of the Young case was heartily deplored. It is seriously felt that Mr. Carter bowed to the undergirded mentality of racism that exists. Andy Young, more than any other American Ambassador to the United Nations had enlightened the American people of all ethnic groups of the potentials and workings of the U.N. How many American citizens can recall anything that any American U.N. Ambassador has done or even remember the names of many of them? Certainly Andy has caused nationwide attention to be

focused on the importance and inhuman pressure of the Third World. Some congressmen, who give support to the white supremacy rule in Africa, while giving flimsy reasons for such, as averting communism, have pressured for Andy's dismissal. Mr. Young's forthrightness and candor, which no one has challenged have been hard for some people to accept, and consequently they have been calling on President Carter to get rid of him. "The truth is stonger than fiction and cuts sharper than a two-edged sword."

Mr. Young, who is the only person who always appears before Congress or any group without any written notes at all, speaks calmly and candidly, has to be counted as one of the most forthright, intelligent and considerate of fair and human treatment of all people

on the face of the globe. Because of American racism, such a person often appears a threat to some people.

Blacks are fighting mad with the administration for its double standard in handling the Young case and that of Mr. Wolf Ambassador to Austria. Mr. Wolf met with the PLO several times, but was only reminded of the U.S. policy, while Ambassador Young met only once with the PLO representative, and then in trying to persuade him to accept the U.S. request for delay in the Palestine debate. No one has decried the Ambassador's mission, only that he should not have done it at this time, while the United States was continuing to work for the delay. Mr. Young is being required, as President of the Security Council to refuse to have any talk with the PLO, even though it's a requirement of the president to talk with all members.

Blacks also feel that President Carter has bowed to Israeli pressure, in this forced resignation. They feel very strongly that Andy Young who, along with Rev. King, did more than anyone else to get Jimmy Carter elected President has been mercilessly maligned by the State Department and media, has been made a sacrificial lamb for racial and Jewish pressure.

Blacks feel that President Carter, instead of standing up forthrightly for fair and just conditions for all human beings, has chosen sides for what maybe termed personal political expediency, and that he has subordinated black concerns and support to Jewish whims.

### OPINION

By Dr. Charles Cobb, Executive Director of the Commission of Racial Justice United Church of Christ

ed by the administration as Ambassador Young himself, not the act of an unauthorized meeting. The act of discussions with the PLO was an act that almost any Ambassadorial level official but Young could have gotten away with and at least one Ambassador has. The U.S. Ambassador to Austria has met with PLO representatives three times before Young had his meeting and he is still U.S. Ambassador to Austria. The question we must ask ourselves is, Why not Young? There are clues in Young's own words. He came to Washington last week with his mind already made up to resign in the wake of this latest controversy, because he was too controversial for the issue to be perceived clearly, and while that was barely tolerable on Africa policy,

on the Middle East issue, it was threatening to be Administration.

In announcing his resignation, Ambassador Young basically said he was tired of and uncomfortable with biting his tongue. In short, there isn't room in the Carter Administration for an Andy Young and while I am not suggesting that Andy Young is the Black Messiah, his forced removal comes close to suggesting that there isn't any room in this administration unless we toe the line and, say, meet and think along lines that maintain the status quo. Therefore, where the State Department and administration have failed, I call on the Church and the religious community to a more visible role in solving the Middle East problem. Thus, as a

member of the Working Committee of the Churches' Human Rights Program for the Implementation of the Helsinki Final Act, I call on the National and World Council of Churches to form a delegation to meet with both Arab and Israeli representatives in the middle east in order to structure a setting for a lasting peace.

It must be said that to focus on Young's dismissal as reflective of a problem between blacks and Jews is to fundamentally miss the point. There are indeed problems between blacks and Jews, but Jews are relevant to Ambassador Young's dismissal only in so far as the device used as a Middle East issue. The problem is with the Carter Administration. President Carter has made it clear he is running for re-election and that there is a lot which will no longer be tolerated, and the measuring stick isn't rightness, effectiveness or skill. Secretaries Joseph Califano and Brock Adams as well as Ambassador Young know that now.

Ambassador Young says that he will campaign for Jimmy Carter's re-election. This cannot be taken as a call for blacks to do the same, for us Andy Young is not the issue, what Jimmy Carter does or doesn't do or hasn't done, must remain the issue and his continuing silence on the case of the Wilmington Ten and Ben Chavis is a case in point.

## Educational Info Centers Program Seeking Interested Citizen Input

Fayetteville - Cumberland County area residents concerned about improving citizen access to educational information and referral services will meet in the Center for Continuing Education at Fayetteville State University, September 28, at 2:30 p.m., to discuss the recently authorized educational information Centers Program.

North Carolina is one of more than forty states participating in the program, and Fayetteville is one of 25 cities across the state selected as a meeting site.

North Carolina's Program Director Carole Tyler says, "Through this series of meetings, we hope to discover what local educational opportunities exist that should be identified and cataloged for easy access to citizens."

Ardath Goldstein of the Governor's Office of Citizen Affairs will attend the meeting to point out

how development of local educational information centers relates to Community Involvement Councils now being organized statewide.

The North Carolina Adult Education Association, through its Task Force on Education Brokering, planned the series, and the project is administered through the Office of Continuing Education, University of North Carolina-Greensboro.

"In communities where hotline or crisis centers operate," Tyler says, "we want to find out about them. Perhaps an educational information service can be added. If educational information and referral services already exist, we want to discuss how they can be linked into a statewide educational information network of programs and people."

Community agency and institutional representatives, educators, and

citizens have received special invitations to attend.

The session is open to any citizen having special concern for creating better linkages between learners and learning opportunities. To determine whether space remains available for the Fayetteville area meeting, contact Dr. James E. Carson, local convener, telephone: 486-1224.

**DUKE**  
[Continued from Page 5]  
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