

What does politics have to do with a loving God?

AS WE listen to the speeches of campaign '84, religious rhetoric continues to be one of the common denominators. Observers might conclude that to vote for one candidate is to vote for God and to vote for another is to vote against God. Which is, of course, determined by one's position on this or that issue.

But as religious as the rhetoric may sound, one is left to wonder what any of it has to do with a loving God. To authoritatively attach God's name to a particular party of candidate seems more often than not to be an exercise in arrogance. Attempts at divine endorsement lead to little more than unjustified condemnations and outlandish generalizations.

THERE ARE, for example those who sug-

gest by innuendo that all of one party is against peace. Others claim that all of another party is against peace. Others claim that all of another party are against children in the womb. In the meantime neither appear to be very consistent. Again the rhetoric confuses the issue whatever it is.

Arms become the "way to peace" and the abortion issue become and issue "of choice." God, of course, is claimed by everyone. Regardless of the issue, the rhetoric continues to confuse the reality.

If arms are the way to peace, when why not arm every American and we will be able to speak from strength. On the other hand, if choice is the concern, then we should not legislate no smoking sections and certainly not



perspectives

Rev. Robert Schaden

speed limits because some may have good reasons for going fast.

Perhaps if we could let go of our need to play God and to judge the integrity of anyone with an opposing view, we might have room in our vision to see destruction for what it is, regardless of method or rationale.

THEN TOGETHER we could build a world that might have something to do with the God whose name gets tacked onto every opposing

view to come down the political pike.

It is not difficult to understand why some politicians, campaign managers, and speech writers spout the religious rhetoric so readily. The reason is obvious — it works. But question is, "Why does it work so well?" Perhaps part of the reason is that we the voters are quicker to reach for the slogans and ready answers of religion than we are to struggle with the challenge of faith.

The result is that religion often has nothing to do with the divine. In fact, atrocities of various kinds have been carried out under the banner of religion throughout human history, — our own not withstanding. I sometimes wonder if Abraham, Jesus, or Mohammed could identify with much of what is done in their respec-

tive names.

THE SITUATION is not unlike that of a parent suggesting that God's love depends on eating spinach. Perhaps we are still children in regard to some things. At least we do seem to still buy the spinach speech when it is offered from the podium.

And because it seems to work so well that same speech in one form or another will no doubt be given a few more times before election day.

Regardless of who makes the speech we might do well to ignore the rhetoric and listen to the God who speaks in open hearts. The only alternative is to tack his name on anything that is made to sound religious.

Senior's loss of weight is cause for concern

Dear Jo:

I am writing to ask you how to deal with my stubborn, determined, 84-year-old mother.

She lives alone and has so since my father died over 20 years ago and, up until now, she's done just fine.

This summer she has lost over 40 pounds. She looks terrible. When we ask her about her health, she says her weight loss was just due to the heat — and she'll be much better when the cooler weather comes.

We spend our summers at a cottage on a small lake; there is plenty of room for her there with us, but she won't come because she says she doesn't like cottages. What can we do?

Mrs. S.

Dear Mrs. S:

You are right to be worried about your mother's health. It is doubtful that her weight loss is just due to the summer's heat. Whether she enjoys cottage life or cooler temperatures are not the issues at this time.

Her major concern at this time is her health, and she should have a complete physical exam as soon as possible. Early diagnosis and treatment of health problems are essential for persons of any age.

If she is hesitant about seeking medical advice, I suggest you make the doctor's appointment for her, drive her there and speak to her doctor after the visit.

It is not easy to have a stubborn, determined



gerontology

A. Jolayne Farrell

parent, but it was probably those qualities that helped her survive so long on her own as a widow. She needs you now to help her — it's not easy being 84 and sick.

Dear Jo:

My aunt was an executive secretary for

years. She always dressed the part — tailored suits, hair and makeup just so. She became quite ill and mentally frail a few years ago and had to be placed in a nursing home. She receives good nursing care there, but they seem to go a little overboard on her appearance. They dress her in frilly nightgowns and robes and place pink ribbons in her hair. She no longer resembles the woman we once knew. The nursing staff at the home have been told and reminded several times that she should be dressed otherwise, but they don't seem to hear us. What would you suggest we do?

Ms. W.

Dear Ms. W:

Keep on reminding the nursing staff of your

aunt's personal appearance. Sometimes there are personnel changes and the message just doesn't get through.

You might want to bring in a picture of your aunt from former days and post it near her bed so the staff and others can see what she looked like and how she dressed in days gone by.

Since most nursing homes encourage their residents to wear their own clothes, you should bring in what you and the family feel are appropriate wearing apparel and bring home the frills and the ribbons.

To avoid ribbons in her hair you can make an appointment for your aunt to have a short curly permanent. This style is becoming on older women and is easy to care for.

ARPIN'S of Windsor

58th ANNUAL FUR SALE

Fine Canadian Furs

Come see Arpin's 1984-85 fabulous collection of fashion furs, expertly crafted into today's exciting new designs...and of course, you are assured of fine quality and value when you shop Arpin's.

DUTY & SALES TAX REFUNDED
Full Premium on U.S. Funds

Furs by Arpin

For Specialist fur over 50 years

484 Pellissier Street
Windsor 1-519-253-5512
Daily 9 to 5:30/Fri. to 9



class reunions

As a public service and when space permits, the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will print announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Marie McGee, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36231 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please include a first and last name with telephone numbers.

• NORTHEASTERN

The January and May classes of 1935 of Detroit Northeastern High School will hold a 50-year reunion on July 13, 1985 at the Polish Century Club in Detroit. For more information, call evenings: George Marston, 525-3638; Michael Loncar, 255-4283; Bernice Hovner, L16-5511.

• TROY

Troy High School class of 1974 will hold

a 10-year reunion Saturday, Nov. 24 at Rochester Golf Club. Contact Debbie Wiles, 585-0674, Eileen Vanderbeck, 689-5097 or Pat McGee, 643-7161.

• ROCHESTER

Rochester High School class of 1959 will hold a reunion Saturday, Nov. 24 at Rivercrest Hall, Avon Road at Livonia. For more information, call Mary Blar, 651-3745 or Debbie Elert, 623-9230.

• WESTERN

Western High School class of 1944 will hold a 40-year reunion Saturday, Nov. 3 at Warren Valley Country Club. For tickets, call Kathleen Pratt Farmer, 425-7179.

• OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Our Lady of Sorrows class of 1939 will hold a 45-year reunion on Saturday, Nov. 3. The invitation is extended to classes from 1938 through 1943. For more information, call Edgar Burger, 533-8538, or Evelyn Romanuk Mikros, 422-6997.

• REDFORD

Detroit Redford High School classes of January and June 1945 will hold a reunion. Names and addresses of classmates and further information can be obtained by contacting S.A. Wickman, 30441 Westfield, Livonia 48150 or by calling 425-8561.

• ST. THERESA

St. Theresa High School class of 1954 will hold a 30-year reunion on Saturday, Nov. 3 at the Fairlane Club. For tickets or information, call Jack Crumley, 754-4398.

...known for COLONIAL RUGS



Woodward at 11 1/2 Mile • Open 'till 9, Mon., Thurs., Fri.

volunteers

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau (OCVB) has a current file of volunteer opportunities for more than 200 agencies. Non-profit organizations needing assistance may list with the bureau. For more information about these and other volunteer openings, please call the bureau at 642-7272.

CRISIS WORKER — Good listeners with good organizational skills who are non-judgemental and non-directive are needed by Common Ground to provide information and referral service and

crisis intervention on phone or face-to-face. Volunteers, who must be 18 or older, are needed for one four-to-five hour shift per week, weekdays between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m.

AUXILIARY STAFF — The Women's Survival Center needs many female volunteers for various openings: child care coordinator and worker, transportation coordinator, peer, phone counselor, speaker, librarian, PR person, and Job Club assistant/vocational counselor. Qualifications differ according to position.

Atlantic Drapery Shoppe

DRAPERY SALE

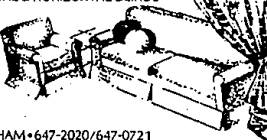
Labor \$8 Per Panel

Special Prices Available on Drapery, Slipcover & Upholstery Fabrics
BEST PRICES ON VERTICAL & HORIZONTAL BLINDS

Custom Spreads
Custom Slipcovers
(Labor Special)

CHAIR - \$69.90
SOFA - \$87.90

360 E. MAPLE • BIRMINGHAM • 647-2020/647-0721



Charles FURNITURE WAREHOUSE

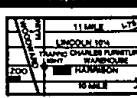
The Best Little Warehouse In Town!



• FREE Decorating Service • 30-70% Off Every Item Daily
• FREE Area Delivery • 90 Day Interest Free Terms
• FREE In Home Set-Up • Special Orders Accepted (No Extra Charge)

CUT YOUR COSTS. BUY FROM OUR WAREHOUSE AND SAVE!

Charles FURNITURE WAREHOUSE
222 E. HARRISON
ROYAL OAK • 399-8320
(8 Blocks N. of 10 Mile, W. Block E. of Main)
OPEN MON.-SAT. 10-6 • FRIDAY 'TIL 9 P.M.



"You can eat anywhere.
You dine at the Vineyards."

VINEYARDS RESTAURANTS

Fine Dining — Franklin Road at Northwestern Highway.
For reservations, call 357-4442.

Velvets... SALE

at very special prices!

One of our best values is now even better. Save on our finest quality velvet seconds that drape and upholster beautifully!

20% OFF

on all Crewels in stock

Custom labor available.

CALICO CORNERS

1933 S. Telegraph
Bloomfield Hills
333-6183

21431 Mack Avenue
St. Clair Shores
775-0078

Open Monday Evenings

BAYBERRY HILL CLASSICS

ANNIVERSARY SALE!

20 to 40% OFF SELECT SPORTSWEAR, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES.

We're celebrating with a Sale! Just think of it as our way of saying "thanks Birmingham" for making Bayberry Hill your way of life.

Starting Thursday, October 25

WE CARRY **Apparallo** AND OTHER FINE LABELS

148 Pierce
Birmingham, Michigan
642-5550