

Good Summer Readings for 1998, II

BY PROF. MCKINLEY BURT

This year, you'll probably notice a sort of change of perspective, reflecting my appraisal of tastes and interests as I visited the coffee houses and other 'talking places' in a visibly changing neighborhood(s).

In this first grouping which might be entitled, 'Man his myths,' we lead off with that best seller by the late, great Joseph Campbell, "The Hero With A Thousand Faces," MJF Books, NY, published by arrangement with Princeton University Press.

This book captures a lot of the story so ably told by the late author on Public TV and on the 'Learning Channel.' "This classic study traces the story of the 'heroes' journey and transformation through mythologies from across the world, revealing the one archetypal hero in them all."

And while you are at your favorite book store, and if you are really into the subject; purchase or order these two classics, "The Golden Bough" by Sir James George Frazer, first published by Macmillan and, "Hamlet's Mill" by Giorgio de Santillana. These two have served me well for setting up a frame of reference to evaluate the existence of 'real' actors or events on these ancient stages in Greece, Africa and Asia.

In the same vein, one may wish to delve into either of two older classic works (at library, if out of print): "The Greeks and Their Gods," W.K.C. Guthrie, 1949-or "Man And His Gods," Homer W. Smith, Little Brown & Co., 1952.

And, of course, there is that great, handy reference tool, "Who's Who in Greek

and Roman Mythology," David Kravitz, Crown Publishers, 1975.

But returning to a theme increasingly articulated today, we cite the works of an internationally recognized scholar—just the reprint of several paragraphs from a new book set off heated controversies in the pages of the Portland Oregonian newspaper and history circles across the nation.

"Black Athena: The Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilization. Vol. I, The Fabrication of Ancient Greece 1785-1985," Rutgers University Press 1987. "The Afroasiatic roots have been systematically ignored, denied or suppressed since the 18th century—chiefly for racist reasons" (or as comedian Bill Cosby put it in that famous 1960's film, "Black History, Lost, Strayed, or Stolen"). "Black Athena II, The Documentary and Archaeological Evidence" was published in 1991 by Rutgers U.

Since these publications, or before, a number of us have discovered corollary and substantiating information in some of the most unlikely places, and by some of the most unlikely, but credible authors and researchers. Even more fabrication, hiding!

Read, "Isaac Newton, Historian," Frank E. Manuel, The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1963.

Manuel, Professor of Modern History at Brandeis University, is to be congratulated for revealing that Newton (the theory of Universal Gravitation) spent many years researching he mathematics, science and religions of the North Africans.

But they didn't tell you that in school! About their devel-

opment of conic sections, about the technology transfer to the Hebrues in Egypt.

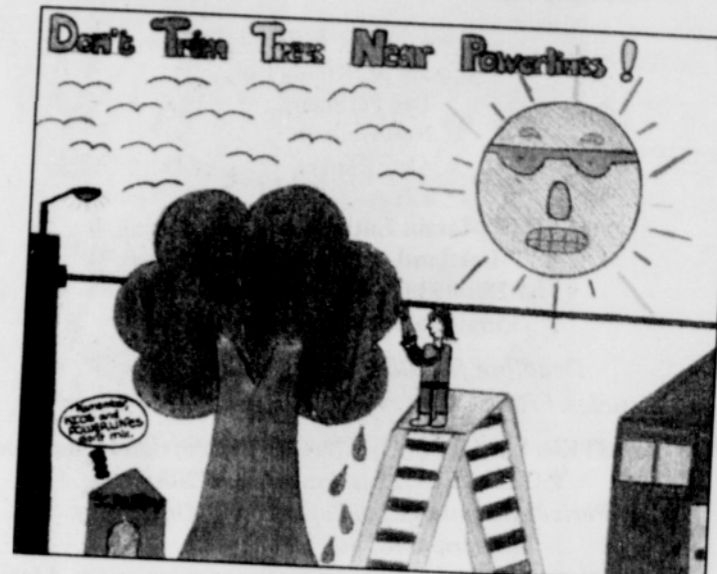
A principal supporting or corollary reference is "Secrets of the Great Pyramid," Peter Thompkins, Galahad Books, 1997 (First published in 1971, Harper Collins). This comprehensive book was the first to present a modern in-depth study of the mathematical and astronomical components of the Great Pyramid at Gizen, Egypt. The role of "Isaac Newton" in the scientific evaluations is fully described—including his need for those pyramid geodesics to support his theory of "Universal Gravitation." (Just as the Russians needed them centuries later before launching "Sputnik").

My next recommendation was described by the New York Times as an "enthraling book of social history"—and by critics of the African American "Million Man March" as the "kind of model for economic development that should have been the goal for men capable of such a 'verbal' outpouring of commitment."

The book is, "An Empire Of Their Own: How The Jews Build Hollywood," Neal Gabler, Anchor Books Doubleday, 1988.

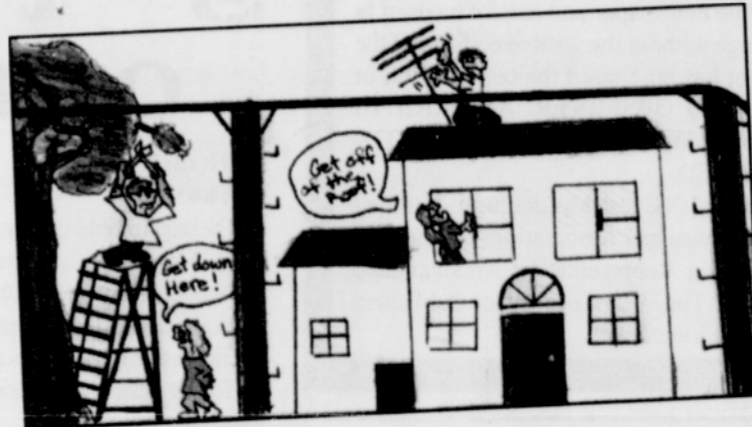
I've heard scores of heated arguments and discussions by both blacks and whites, mostly addressed to "a failure to develop a plan—a failure to concentrate all that energy and obvious resources revealed by the 'Million Man March' into a similar economic machine. There have been repeated references to Barry Gordy and Motown, the great black owned entertainment and recording conglomerate—now gone!

Simple Simon met a lineman high up in the air. Said the lineman to Simple Simon, when up near lines BEWARE.



Duy, age 11

Never remove branches or debris tangled in lines



Lena, age 10

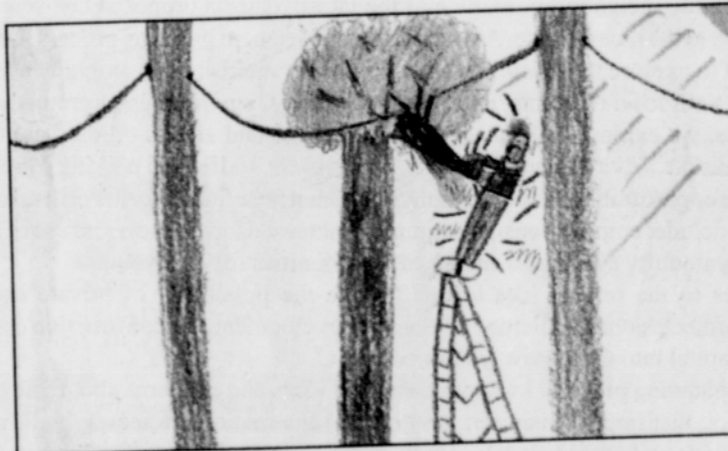
Never install antennas or satellite dishes near power lines



Samuel, age 6

Treat all lines as energized lines

Avoid power lines when cleaning out gutters



David, age 6

Don't trim trees near power lines

Outdoor electric safety is important to all of us — especially this time of year when we're outside more. With the help of some of last year's winners in Pacific Power's Electric Safety Contest, we wanted to make you aware of some of the potentially hazardous situations you and your kids can get into while working or playing outdoors.



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Open Forum

Question: In the cases surrounding Anthony Nnoli's death and its aftermath (involving his friends), what corrective measures are needed to resolve the problems?

Gregory Montagu,
Civil Rights Advocate from Northeast Portland

"When there is a situation that comes up in the community like a youth being killed or some issues surrounding race in terms of how decisions are being administered and made, then we have to have the ability to quickly mobilize and address the issues and assert pressure on the powers at hand.

The NAACP has the historical base and the know-how to properly represent us (people of color) and address these issues when they come up.

In this instance, that really didn't happen. We as a community (of color) had to scramble and come together. Even though we had a measure of success, it would have been a lot better and easier if we were able to call a centralized telephone number and say, "Hey, we've got a situation."

Marjorie Sandoz,
School Counselor from Hillsboro

"The people of Portland need control of their own community. A practical solution would be to have a Civilian Review Board that could review a case like this, review the behaviors of the authorities and have the means to challenge the decisions made.

This Civilian Review Board needs to be independent of City Hall completely, separate by the autonomists, funded by the city, but not under the City's control."

Adrienne Weller,
Socialist, Feminist independent candidate on the ballot for State Representative

"Measure 11 needs to be repealed. It is a measure that does not permit the judges to have any discretion over whether or not someone is a first time offender or not. It tries children as adults.

Measure 11 is used disproportionately against poor youth and youth of color.

Repealing Measure 11 is what needs to happen in our institutionalized, racist justice system."

Eric Ward,

Regional Coordinator of NW. Coalition Against Malicious Harassment based in Seattle, Washington
"In regards to police harassment, what we need to understand is that it is a larger problem of racism and bigotry in communities. And it is often reflected back through individuals and sometimes whole law enforcement agencies.

The #1 solution is better training for law enforcement officers. I think that means training about rules of force, learning to interact with different individuals and about training that allows them to see that they are not separate from the community but actually part of the community."

John Canda,

Program Mgr. for the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods
Representative of Gangs Outreach Program and Tri-Met Advocacy Program

"Allowing kids to wear whatever they want to express themselves lends itself to poor communication. It says that you no longer have to walk up to me, engage me in a conversation about what my beliefs are, and what I understand to be right or wrong. But you can merely look at me from a distance and just by that look, the color of my clothes and the way that I'm wearing them, say what I believe in. It's a safety issue. It speaks to the self-esteem issue.

I think the move by the Portland Public Schools to get kids in uniforms this Fall is important. In doing this, the School Board is making a statement: We not only care about the livelihood and the health of our children, we want them to come into our schools and have as fair of a chance as the next young person. Once this uniform standard kicks in, it will level the playing field."

Jessie Clay,

Close friend of the late Anthony Nnoli
"You don't have to be responsible about how you dress. You can wear whatever you want to wear. You shouldn't have to wear a STIGMA!

Gang members didn't start the fashion. They just enhance it. Styles come from the pop culture. People should get stereotypical thinking out of their mind because someone looks a certain way and dresses a certain way. It doesn't mean that they're a gang member. People need to be responsible by not having pre-judgments."