Baltimore Afro American

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*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)*

A-4 DECEMBER 15, 1973

# The Sorry Police Figures

In a few days the police department will make available new figures giving the racial breakdown on personnel. The AFRO doubts seriously there will be any worthwhile change in the sorry employment picture revealed in recent figures.

Back in June, there were 449 blacks out of a force of 3,379. In November, there were 488 blacks out of 3,408.

Thus the percentage of blacks on the force remained at about 13.

But in some cases, the picture grew even darker.

While the total number of officers in November inched up to 28 of 514 over the June figures of 26 and of 517, the November picture reflected no lieutenant colonels out of 4. There was 1 out of 4 in June. The November figure for captains showed 1 black out of 16 where in June there had been 2 of 18.

The November figure for black lieutenants remained at 4 although the total number went up to 104 from June's 99.

The 20 black sergeants reflected in November's figures, an increase of 4 over the June number, was the brightest spot in the statistics. There also was an increase of 4 patrolmen.

That is small's pace improvement of the kind the city cannot tolerate.

We suggested in this space earlier this month that the suit filed by a group of black police officers seeking to compel the Baltimore City Police Department to revise its hiring and promotion policies, was a step in the right direction.

In a city with a 50-50 racial composition it is obvious that someone is not living up to fair hiring standards.

Thus while the police suit is pending, Police Commissioner Donald Pomerleau and his top aides should take firm positive steps to dramatically improve the employment picture of the city's police force.

Commissioner Pomerleau must shoulder the blame for the department's failure to make more acceptable progress. It should not be necessary for him to wait for the courts to hammer him into action — as it surely will.

The commissioner is on record as saying he is concerned about the total city. An earlier AFRO Honor Roll citation took note of the commission's efforts at providing a more even-handed policing of the city. It seems now that he is faltering.

It's time Commissioner Pomerleau got some meaningful assistance from an equal employment specialist who could guide him in improving the employment figures. Correcting this departmental deficiency is as important to policing the streets of Baltimore as any other strategy.

# Shadow Over The Port

How much more can black citizens stand from President Nixon?

This question arises as some 2,500 black longshoremen stand alone on the docks in Baltimore facing a problem which stems directly from Nixon's failure to stand up morally or legally on the problem of slave-labor Rhodesian chrome ore coming into the United States.

The African Sun arrived here Wednesday morning carrying the ore mined under racist slave whips in South Africa. In 1967, the United Nations voted to boycott Rhodesian goods to force South Rhodesia's all-white government under Ian Smith to hold fair elections and stop terror against black workers.

In January, 1971, Nixon and Congress broke the boycott under pressure from Union Carbide and other firms. More cheap-labor chrome is now coming in to afford the industry huge profits. Some U.S. firms have been hurt badly.

With Baltimore fast approaching its 200th anniversary of a history that had its beginnings on the world-famed port, it is distressing that black dockers (who helped make it all possible) now face the threat of losing the power they once held on the docks.

Since the colonies, the docks have been worked by black men, a back-breaking occupation passed down through their families from generation to generation.

A recent court decision to merge black and white International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) unions, from the viewpoint of leadership roles, has not helped.

Black dockers saw it coming. They feared that merging would eventually leave them no strength, few officials and fewer jobs. Now, black men not only stand alone for legal and moral reasons but for their very lives.

A few days ago, whites broke up ILA union elections with gunfire and the long, dark shadow Nixon has cast on the docks became even more threatening.

Backed by a greedy industry wanting all the slave chrome ore it can get and a conservative Nixon Administration that defies UN sanctions, white ILA men agreed to unload the ships and sought to capture all union official positions.

Contrary to ILA constitution provisions, whites tried (but failed) to shove in a man convicted of federal crimes.

Unable now to come together for an election by Jan. 1, 1974, the union will likely go under all-white trusteeship. If the federal government steps in, Nixon will still be back stage.

# Redd Foxx Stinks

Redd Foxx, the comedian best known for his recent successes in the starring role on "Sanford and Son," the NBC television show, is bedded himself.

His use of the racial epithet, "N---r" on at least two occasions during the Friday evening NBC Dean Martin Show was inexcusable. The evening's program was a salute to Carroll O'Connor, the Archie Bunker of "All In The Family."

Viewers had to note the audience didn't think it was funny when Foxx quipped, "Contrary to what you might think, all n---s do carry knives," and then pulled a switchblade knife from the pocket of his tuxedo.

# Enough Is Too Much

In the course of human events, as Abe Lincoln once eulogized, the American citizen has proved to be enterprising, unselfish, patriotic and cooperative whenever his country called.

# 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 justice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise. (Dec. 25, 1920)

(From The Papers of John H. Murphy Sr., who founded the AFRO-AMERICAN, Aug. 13, 1892).

When Uncle Sam has had quick need for brave souls to confront the British, swift planes to match the Nazis and nuclear know-how to keep pace with the Communists, history records that there has been prompt and adequate response.

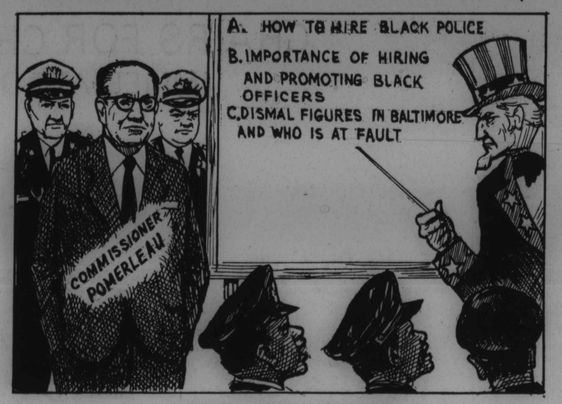
Never once, since Plymouth Rock, have John and Jane Q. Public turned their backs on the E Pluribus Unum concept, but it could be that Uncle Sam's time is running out.

As in all previous moments of emergency, the nation's own has held its own in the initial stages of the present energy crisis. Lights have been dimmed, thermostats have been lowered, gasoline has been sacrificed and various other comforts have been readily surrendered.

But a halt may be called when Mr. Public realizes the full impact of the latest government request. The sacrcity of wood pulp demands curtailment of newspaper activity, and last week came the urge to reduce to bare minimum the use of all paper in the home.

When a man is asked to conserve the energy used to require the use of toilet tissue, enough is too much.

'I'm Sure You Know How To Handle This Without My Help'




## A little About A LOT

# Maryland; My Maryland!

By Madeline W. Murphy

The protest of implied racism, by State Senator Clarence W. Blount (D-Sth), in regard to the hateful, inciting words of the State anthem, "Maryland, My Maryland," and the five page letter of resignation from William P. Cunningham, Dean of the School of Law, University of Maryland, dated December 5, 1973, are indicative of the struggles blacks are encountering in the "Free" State.

The former points up the primal aim of Maryland to align itself with all attributes of the ole' Confederacy, to the point where "the South will rise again" with all its attendant master-slave mentality.

("And be the battled queen of yore, Maryland, My Maryland!")

It is seen as Maree Farring, self-appointed keeper of the morals, moves on the Baltimore City School Board to limit reading to sweetness and light, to avoid the stark reality of books like "Manchild in a Promise Land." City Council's tenvote majority then supports her by not backing the School Board minority, who believe that books should neither be banned nor censored.

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The latter is this paragraph in Dean Cunningham's letter: "The Faculty and I, and the University, have been struggling, manfully, (ha! ha!) for the last five years, to increase significantly the number of blacks in the legal profession, but I fear that the combination of black politics and white idealism threatens to undermine the integrity of the law school and other units in higher education.

"The Board of Regents in 1971 adopted the goal that by 1974 "The incoming classes of the professional schools will have qualified black students in not less than the percentage of blacks in the population of Maryland (17.8 per cent). Though morally fine, and politically expedient, this goal is intellectually indefensible. The idea that a certain percentage of lawyers should or ought to be of a certain race is not something that can be established by any empirical data we have presently available, or is such data likely to become available.

"Moreover, the reality is that the existing pool of potential black law students is not yet sufficient to achieve the Regent's goal, at least without adverse affect on the educational enterprise and legal profession.

"The problem is exacerbated by demand of some blacks for guaranteed instant success, and the eagerness of some whites to satisfy these unreasonable demands." ("She is not dead, nor deaf nor dumb, Huzza! she spurns the Northern scum . . . Maryland, My Maryland!")

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Dean Cunningham, along with genetic theorists, Shockley, Jencks, Jensen, et al, would prefer the public to believe that there is some inherent inferiority in black students, not found in whites; that there is a vast wasteland of potential black law students.

It would be safe to assume that if there is this lack, it is due to his unwillingness to recruit, actively, promising black high school juniors and seniors; and to work more closely with black colleges to help students develop the background and training needed to the legal profession.

It has been said, "The President of a college is the shepherd of the flock; and the Dean is the crook on his staff"!

No one disputes the need for more lawyers. The unwritten elitist law at Maryland is that law students are more acceptable if they are white. If this weren't so, recruitment and retention of black students would be the rule rather than exception; and the subject of blacks, per se, would never come up.

Someone said of Delegate Boswell: "She has some gall," which can also be said of her opponent and of everyone else in politics.

Any Mitchell-Boswell contest is bound to lead to mostly, no-holds-bar campaign.

Yet the "adverse effect" of Watergate scandals engineered by upwardly mobile, smart, young and old, white lawyers, holds up no shining example of "integrity" of law schools, nor the legal profession, to aspiring black law students. Nor does this disgrace reinforce the elitist position that all that is needed of law students is whiteness and intellectual sufficiency to succeed.

It would seem that black unsophisticated law students might breathe a new breath of moral and ethical ideals into law schools over the land. By sharing these indigenous values, by working together, perhaps, that "X" factor so evidently lacking in predominantly white law schools would being about the end result of less Watergate-types and more Legal Aid-types.

Much is said in Dean Cunningham's letter about political expediency, as if it were a four-letter word. Political pressures are nothing foreign to him, as witness the wide distribution of his five page mimeographed letter of resignation.

His aim here is clearly to marshall political alignment of "Maryland, My Maryland" advocates, to support his position and quell any type of quota system in enrolling blacks at the U. of Md. Law School.

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We blacks once elected, have learned to use the same political defenses they have used against us for years. Now, interestingly enough, all bets are off and the rules of constitutional advocacy are inoperative! Now is the time to pressure for the kind of dean the Law School should have and oversee his-her selection and appointment.

Frustrations, demands of blacks, crash programs to solve the "black problem" are all part of the creative imaginative role we shall expect of a younger, wiser, more honest, less racist man or woman.

This is where "instant success" begins.

It is well that Dean Cunningham, at last, has resigned.

## NOW and THEN

# Fifth District Divided Between Races

By G. James Fleming

The old Fifth Legislative District, dominated by Senator Clarence Blount, has been divided into two new districts; The Forty-first which is overwhelmingly black, and the Forty-second which is predominantly white.

Both in the Northwest, the 41st occupies "the inner portion of the old Fifth," according to Senator Blount. It includes parts of the 15th, 16th and 20th wards.

Blount's Five and Five Club considers the new 41st District its territory, its hunting grounds.

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For the coming 1974 election for the legislature, the club has already endorsed its slate, as follows:

Senator . . . . Senator Blount
Delegate . . . . Walter Dean
Delegate . . . . Maceo Williams
Delegate . . . . Open

Both Blount and Dean are incumbents, with quite an image as outspoken fighters.

Williams will be making his first race for elective office, although he has worked in several past campaigns. He is presently with the Mayor's Office of Manpower Resources. He is also a member of the Inmates Grievance Board, by appointment of Governor Mandel.

Williams is a graduate of Morgan State College where he was once a basketball star.

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Pinkney Howell, incumbent member of the House of Delegates, at this writing, has not received endorsement for a new term by the Five and Five Club.

It appears that Powell, Leonard Briscoe and Arthur Murphy, the latter two lawyers, will be fighting it out for the unfilled Delegate spot.

Briscoe is associated with Delegate Lena K. Lee in the practice of law; Murphy is well known as a former assistant to the governor and executive director of the Criminal Justice Commission.

"Fighting to win there will be among us, but no blood bath," Senator Blount observed.

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While this column bunched recently that there would be no blood-letting in the old Fourth Legislative District, the new 38th District (part of the old Fourth), may produce a donnybrook.

It seems well firmed up (bumper stickers and all) that Delegate Hildegardis Boswell will be locking horns with veteran Senator Clarence M. Mitchell, III, for his seat in the upper house.

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The neat little slate of Delegates running with Senator Mitchell, incumbents Ike Dixon, Calvin Douglass and Lena K. Lee, will also have opposition, we are Delegate Kenneth Webster and he expects to knock out of the endorsed trio.

There may not be mayhem in the old Fourth (now the 40th and 38th) now it appears there won't be any lovefeast, either, so far as the new 38 is concerned.

(A later column will deal with the old Second District).

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NIXON WATCHERS — One TV commentator recently stuck his neck out and said that President Nixon would resign by December 15, or by January 1, at the latest.

This prediction has not caught fire. It has been taken more as "wishful thinking."

The opposite view holds that the White House is the "safest place" for the President; that once he leaves the Presidency, he is subject to all the processes of law, from indictment to jail.

These latter "Nixon watchers" cannot see Nixon leaving his constitutional haven.

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All the anti-Nixon (or pro-America), factions believe, however, that getting rid of the President has been facilitated now that the nation has a full-fledged Vice-President, Gerald Ford (and not Spiro T. Agnew!).

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Pressure for resignation will be heating up. But, if the President resigns, it will be because of extreme pressure, especially from Republicans — Pressure and a "deal," perhaps, just as Agnew worked out a deal.

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At that, the President may choose to face the impeachment route, since that route might take years, (perhaps until the end of his term), while resignation would be immediate.

# A Column Of CHOICE

By Marion Banfield

Claude Brown's 'Manchild In the Promised land' is an emotionally moving autobiography of a young black man who survived the devastating racial turmoil of Harlem with enough inner strength to graduate from Howard University.

When the book first came on the market I urged young people to read it. They might have lived in Fairfield, or Cherry Hill, or Forest Park, or Ashburton.

Each was encouraged to compare their problems to Claude Brown's.

Claude Brown spoke to an audience in this city several years ago. Hundreds of white and black citizens came to hear, and some to pay tribute to this man who had survived so valiantly the scars of our country's callous racism.

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When some of us speak of the inner strengths of an individual, of the support of a family, of the struggle for survival, there is 'Manchild in the Promised Land.'

The ugliness, the depravity, the weaknesses and strengths, those who had compassion and love are all in the pages of this small monument of America's racism.

It is inconceivable that there is a high school student who does not know the vulgar names for sex, for race.

To have this book available for students does not suggest that it become a textbook to be read out loud. It's language read out loud would be offensive and embarrassing to some of us, regardless of age, class, or race.

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To try to ban the book is, of course, the best stimulation for its being read. The book should be read.

White citizens need to read it. They need to have the emotional exposure of degradation, of despair, of stamina, of valiancy, of love, of the human ability to survive that is a cultural reality of 1973.

A choice is for citizens to write to the Board of School Commissioners and ask that they not take on the onus of censorship. The Department of Education staff has been maturely responsible in their literary choices.

A choice is for teachers to not only have students to read, but to discuss books disapproved by certain members of the Board.

A choice is to discuss why and who bans books.

# Some Poor Due Heating Crisis Break

By Beverly Bruce Havard

The energy crisis, coupled with the possibility of a severe winter, may create a concern for the health of consumers beyond the obvious hazards and discomforts which could result from an extended period of insufficient heat.

A secondary health consideration relates to the quality of heating oil available to the public. It is ironic that while the poor in our society are traditionally on the low end of the totem pole — in this energy crisis some of them may, in one sense, find themselves fortunate to be on the residual end of the stick — at least they'll be warm.

During a recent TV newscast Commissioner Robert Embry, Department of Housing and Community Development, assured viewers that persons residing in public housing would be permitted to set their thermostats on 72 because of the use of No. 6 oil.

The commissioner admitted that grade 6 oil is dirtier, due to a high sulphur content — but, there is no immediate shortage of this grade oil.

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The average grade oil served to residential consumers is No. 2 — a light distillate fuel.

Apartment buildings using oil heat in the Baltimore City area generally use No. 2 or No. 4 grade fuel.

Baltimore City Public Schools are heated by No. 2 interruptable gas; No. 4; No. 6.

No. 6 grade fuel oil is a heavy, high viscosity fuel consisting of the oils which remain after lighter products have been distilled from crude oil.

This residual grade fuel must be preheated — requiring the type of heating units found in older buildings.

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Furnaces with the capabilities required to handle No. 6 grade fuel oil are present in some of our schools and also found at the Central Avenue Heating Plant which services 13 public housing projects.

Some of these units have been converted, enabling usage of lighter grade distillates at some projects.

Residential or public buildings utilizing the converted or newer model furnaces will be unable to use grade No. 6 oil in spite of the energy crisis — without costly changes in the heating apparatus.

An engineer at the Central Avenue Heating Plant, who declined to give his name, emphatically stated that only No. 5 low sulphur fuel oil is used in public housing because existing pollution laws render the use of No. 6 grade illegal.

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During the coming months, it is imperative that we note the actions of our various local and national environmental control groups in relation to emergency measures so that we may recognize and establish what our nation's priorities are concerning the health of blacks and other minorities.

Also, it will be important to note the effect upon blacks in relation to other measures under consideration, such as price increases, special allocations and rationing.

Will blacks and poor people be the sacrifice our government requests of America?

### Energy Crisis

Without gasoline
The auto industry shall surely collapse,
And millions in taxes
And billions in wages
This should never have happened
And though I am prepared to fix the blame
The shortages will continue to remain,
We sponsored civil war in Cuba
Instead of solving our domestic needs.
We wrecked Korea, and Cambodia, and Vietnam
When we should have constructed refineries.
We tolerated men like Ross Barnett, and Lester Maddox
Who made racial yells and waved confederate flags and Khrushchev vowed; we shall bury you'
I have been a whipping boy for all of my life
I have had no hand nor choice in the crisis that developed
This is a government of the people and for the people
And no longer am I entranced or captivated
By flag waving and slick talking bureaucrats.

PAUL D. McALLISTER

# Self Hatred

Dear AFRO:

Racial discrimination in America is a mean and sordid thing. We have no idea how much blacks have contributed to, how deep the wounds of slavery have penetrated. If there is anything blacks must do for their children it is to help them break out of this vicious circle of self-hatred.

How general is this inferiority and cruel stigma made in America of race and color was revealed to me in a recent interview with one of Baltimore's highest school officials.

I was showing him some of the books I had written and published. When I displayed "The Legend of Jocko," an opera for children, which showed the little black boy of the lawns on the cover, he pushed it aside saying, "I hate that boy, that image. It is a stereotype of the black man."

Now here was a black man, an American leader in education, demonstrating and intense dislike for a little black boy heretofore known and ridiculed for his servitude.

Had he read the book and known the inspiration and heroism of George Washington's brave black Jocko, he would have loved the boy and given him the warmth and proper recognition due. This is an example of the extent of self-hatred.

Charles E. Silbermann wrote in Fortune magazine in 1962, "The American black will be unable to take his place in the mainstream of American life until he stops despising himself and his fellows.

"The Blacks will be unable to compete on equal terms until he purges from his mind all sense of white superiority and black inferiority—until he believes, with all his being, that he is a free man, and acts accordingly. In this sense, therefore, only the Negro can solve the Negro problem."

The Bible teaches, "Know thy self," and Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

An all-out campaign to rid black people of self-hatred should be started and given first priority by every individual and institution in America. We are incapable of loving others until we can love and respect ourselves.

EARL KOGER, SR.

# PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro American

A-5 DECEMBER 15, 1973

# Our Readers Say

*Readers are invited to submit letters for publication. All letters must be signed, but signature will be omitted if requested. Letters should be no more than 200 words in length. Address them to "Our Readers Say," Baltimore AFRO-AMEPICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.*

# Advance Federal

Dear AFRO:

We deeply appreciate the excellent coverage the AFRO gave the transfer of savings by the Rev. Carl Washington and the members of St. Timothy Christian Baptist Church to the Advance Federal Savings and Loan Association on November 24.

The pictures and news story that appeared on the front page and Page 2 of the November 27 issue of the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN have brought many favorable comments and some additional savings to Advance Federal.

We also appreciate the coverage of the transfer of Prophet Eli to Advance Federal, which appeared on the front page of the December 1 issue and the excellent editorial, "Advance to Advance," and the editorial pictorial sketch, "You Help Us And We Help You," which appeared on the editorial page of the same edition.

It is our opinion that the favorable publicity that you gave Advance Federal will make the public more conscious of black owned businesses. It should increase the volume of business done by many of our enterprises.

In addition, it should help Advance Federal gain enough new savings to enable us to resume normal mortgage lending activities soon.

Very sincerely yours,
W. O. Bryson Jr.,
(President)

### Cop Out

Dear AFRO:

I am a high school student, and I have read several articles in your paper pertaining to the banning of high school students driving to school. This is by all means, unconstitutional and severe discrimination to a minority group.

Everyone wants to do what they can during the energy crisis, but this is another cop out aimed at the younger generation.

If we, as U.S. Citizens, are to live in a democracy, we cannot pick out one group of students (many who are voting tax payers) and ban their driving to and from their daily place of business (school).

If one voting taxpayer can drive between 9 and 3, all taxpayers should drive between 9 and 3.

I'm afraid the governor won't get my cooperation with this new law, I shall not yield to his discriminatory bias law.

DARRYL A. JOHNSON

### Not Welfare

Dear AFRO:

I have been trying for months to get employment. The reasons I haven't, I can't understand.

I graduated from Frederick Douglass High School. The year I graduated, our motto was, "Education is our Determination." Well, I have had it and my determination is to get a job which I have been unable to do.

I went to school lots of times with almost no money, standing on those bus corners freezing to get to school to get some knowledge. My mother wanted me to have more than she did, so I could be somebody in my life. Then I didn't quite understand what she meant, now I do.

The last year of school, I had a job, paying $1.60 an hour. I was later terminated because of a cutback in funds. I got another paying $1.65 an hour. It was only temporary. There should be a law against pay being so low. They know if a person really needs a job they will take it, as I did to help myself and my mother—

Now all I do is spend money going for Interviews that turn out to be nothing. When I go, I tell them about my education, that I passed the Civil Service test, my past experience on jobs, and that I am willing to learn.

What, I can't understand is that they expect me to have a lot of past job experience, when I have been in school most of my life, preparing myself for a job.

I believe this is a way they use not to accept me, at least one of the ways. I know they will never call, because I feel like they should tell me then and there whether or not I have the job. It's like, "Don't call us. We'll call you."

If I rob or steal, everyone will recognize me then. They say all that blacks want to do is live off the welfare. I feel like this, if most of the people were given the chance for an education, someone reliable to watch their children, and find a good paying job, they wouldn't have to live off the welfare.

I don't, and I know there are more who think the same way. There are going to be more dropouts and crimes if something isn't done now. S.J.D.

Editor's Note: This letter was signed but name was deleted at writer's request. The AFRO invites this reader to supply more information about her qualifications and to insert an advertisement in our classified columns. If she has skills, as she indicates, she might find employment. We suggest she not become too disillusioned, but keep trying. If she has talents, there is a niche for her.)

# Tips On How To Ease The Energy Crunch

In view of today's energy situation the Baltimore Gas and Electric has prepared attached folder which lists various ways to save energy in the home.

A copy will be sent to customers with their gas and electric bills during December.

Here are highlights of the tips the company is sharing with customers:

Ways To Save: The heating system is the biggest energy user in the average home — it's also where you can most easily take steps to save significant amounts of energy.

Don't over heat. 68 degrees is recommended as a comfortable, healthful daytime temperature. And at night set the thermostat back to 60 degrees. Do this also when you'll be away for even a day or two.

Humidify. You're more comfortable in moist air than in dry air at the same temperature. Moist air is healthier for you, and will help keep cracks from developing in floors and furniture. If your furnace does not have a humidifier, open pans of water in several rooms will help.

Insulate. Proper insulation can pay for itself in fuel savings.

There should be six inches of insulation in the attic, three inches in outside walls and three inches in floors over unheated areas such as crawl spaces and basements.

Don't forget to insulate heating ducts or pipes that pass through unheated areas such as crawl spaces.

Install storm windows and doors. This prevents heat loss by creating a dead air space between the inner and outer windows and doors. Clear plastic securely fastened over the outside of windows can serve the same purpose temporarily.

Weatherstrip doors and windows and caulk the frames.

Fireplace. Use it if you have one but make sure the damper is closed when not in use.

Let the sun furnish free heat. Keep shades and draperies open on the sunny side of the house during the day. But close them at night for added insulation.

Seal off attic. Make sure an unheated attic is not pouring cold air down into the house. Keep the door closed and sealed as tightly as possible.

Close off and don't heat any unused rooms. And if you sleep with the bedroom window open, turn off the heat in the room and keep the door closed.

Keep filters clean. Change them at least twice a year. And don't let furniture, drapes, etc. block heat vents, registers or radiators.

IN THE KITCHEN — Frozen foods. Unless directions indicate otherwise thaw frozen foods before cooking and they will cook in less time.

Top range burners. Use pots and pans that cover the top range burners to prevent heat loss around the sides of the pan. Use as little water as possible — it will boil more quickly. And use of tight-fitting lids allow vegetables to steam rather boil, preserving their appearance and natural vitamins. Also, once boiling starts, the burner can be turned down to save energy and help prevent sticking.

Plan meals ahead — for soups, stews and casseroles that take a long time to cook, make double amounts. Then freeze half for future use. Plane entire oven around dishes requiring the same baking temperature, and again try to prepare several meals at once.

Oven use. Oven preheating requires no more than 10 minutes, and dishes needing more than an hour of cooking time may be started in a cold oven. And don't keep peeking in the oven. It wastes a lot of heat.

Dishwashing. If you have a diswasher, use it only for full loads. Partial loads use as much hot water and electricity as a full load. Otherwise use a dishpan or sink full of water. Washing dishes under running hot water is wasteful of energy.

Refrigeration. Be sure to defrost refrigerator and freezer when ice buildup reaches ¼ inch. Open the door only when necessary and close it as quickly as possible.

Try to keep your freezer filled with your frozen food. There's less room for cold air to be lost when the door is opened.

Occasionally close the door gasket against a piece of paper — a dollar bill is just right. If the paper can be pulled out easily, the gasket is worn and is letting cold air leak out. It should be replaced.

Occasionally clean dust from the external coils behind or under your refrigerator or freezer.

HEATING WATER: — The rule is — don't waste it. The typical household uses many gallons a day, and much of it just goes down the drain. Some water saving tips have already been covered in the kitchen and laundry sections. Here are others:

Stop leaks. Repair leaking faucets promptly. A drip of only one drop per second means a waste of 800 gallons of hot water a year.

AFRO LINE IS AN AFRO community service to help you solve problems, whatever they may be.

All you have to do is write a postcard to AFRO LINE, AFRO, 628 N. Eutaw St., P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203.

In addition to stating the question you want answered, include your name, address and telephone number.

QUESTION—Today (Monday, Dec. 10, 1973), I came home to find someone had drained my oil tank. Whoever did it, pushed the cover down in and the oil man can't get any oil in. I think you should warn readers to be on the watch for oil tank thieves. What can we do about this.—MRS. C.W.

ANSWER: According to a spokesman for a major oil firm, all persons having fuel oil storage tanks located out of doors should make every effort to transfer the tanks inside.

He said that if moving the tank is impossible, owners should construct makeshift locks to guard against burglary.

The spokesman warned, however, "If you can't protect an outside tank, move it inside, by all means."

QUESTION: We have begged and pleaded with the manager of the apartments in the 1200 block Madison Ave. about the dogs which, according to the lease, tenants cannot have. The dogs have been barking seven days a week at five in the morning, and the mess that they leave on the steps and lawn is just horrible.

The owners don't clean up behind the dogs and the mess stays there until the janitor comes. The hallways are beginning to smell terrible. The manager claims he has contacted the owners but nothing happens. Please help us.

Signed: T. L.

ANSWER: The manager of your complex, John Lee, has given the dog owners 30-days in which to get rid of the dogs or vacate the premises. Mr. Lee added that he was not manager when the original complaints were initiated.

QUESTION: I am a Baltimore City Jail inmate, awaiting trial and under a jurisdiction within the realm of your reading public to influence change and bring remedy.

Specifically, there has been much publicity recently about the type B Hong Kong flu No. 572, for which health officers across the nation have been urging immunization shots for everyone.

In addition, Dr. Neil Solomon has emphasized the need for those with histories of heart, lung and-or kidney ailments to obtain shots. These ailments are frequently complications of drug or alcohol addictions or old bullet wounds.

Individuals with these complications are not uncommonly characterized as "wino's" "freaks" and "thugs" and as such travel through all social stratum. Their congregation is commonly in jail and jail, like any institution, is a breeding ground for disease. Due to the strange and constant interactions of all the characters in jail, every inmate who so desires should be immunized.

Due to the eventual release of many awaiting trial on legal loopholes, lack of evidence, stet docket, nolle process, etc. inmates should be given shots against type B Hong Kong No. 572 to protect the public after an inmate's release. Yet the institution refuses shots and is this refusal within the institutional framework that has led me to you.

ANSWER: Although the chief physician for the City Jail infirmary was not immediately available for comment, Mrs. Miller, head nurse of the infirmary said that "no shots have been given as of yet, to my knowledge."

She said that the decision to accept responsibility for administering shots will be made by Dr. Nicholson.

Mrs. Miller added that to her recollection, no such shots have been administered in the past.

QUESTION: I am writing to you in an appeal for my 18 year old son, who is being held in the Baltimore City Jail for murder, armed robbery and for having a gun.

My son was shot 2 or 3 times during this so-called incident.

The bar owner, shot him and my son was supposed to have shot a patron in the bar. It was said that about 14 other patrons beat my son across the head with chairs.

But, when he was admitted to Bon Secours Hospital he didn't have any bruises or cuts on the upper parts of his body. The only wounds he had were from gun shots. I am the mother of 6 children, ranging in ages from 18 to 7 years. I don't have money for the children's clothes half the time, so how can I afford a lawyer for my son's defense?—MRS. D. E.

ANSWER: AFRO Line suggests you take your problem to the Legal Aid Bureau nearest you. It is at 412 N. Bond St., phone 675-5218.

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*80 YEARS AGO — "The interests of the Afro-American population of Baltimore are identical and any faction of the race which fosters strife to gratify its own selfish ambition, should be classed with the enemy."*
*(From the AFRO-AMERICAN, April, 1893)*

# A Happy Homes Recipe

4 cups - love
2 cups - loyalty
3 cups - forgiveness
1 barrel - laughter
1 cup - friendship
5 spoons - hope
2 spoons - tenderness
4 quarts - faith

Take love and loyalty, mix it thoroughly with faith. Blend it with tenderness, kindness and understanding. Add friendship and hope, sprinkle with laughter.

Bake it with sunshine. Serve daily with generous helpings.

(From Big Brothers Letter)

Water heater control. Set the heater thermostat at 150 degrees. This is hot enough for dishwashing, baths and laundry. And when going away for more than a few days, turn the heater off, if electric; turn to "pilot," if gas.

Save water. A shower uses much less hot water than a tub bath, so take showers possible. And when washing or shaving, don't leave the hot water running. Run some into the basin and hold it with the stopper.

IN THE LAUNDRY: Washing. Wash with cold or warm water whenever possible, and try to wash only full loads. Don't over wash — a 10 minute wash cycle is usually enough even for very soiled clothes.

DRYING. Dry only full loads when possible, don't overload your dryer. Don't over-dry clothes. It not only wastes energy, but may cause shrinkage and set wrinkles. Clean the lint filter after every load.

GENERAL: Use common sense. Don't let children constantly run in and out, leaving outside doors open. And don't carry on conversations with friends or neighbors through open doors or windows. There's no point in heating all outdoors.

Turn off lights and appliances such as radios and TVs when you're not using them. Unplug Instant-On TVs — they draw current even when turned off.

Wherever you can, replace light bulbs, with others of lower wattage. Often you'll hardly be aware of any difference.

In such rooms as kitchen, bathrooms, laundries, garages, utility and workrooms, consider replacing incandescent bulbs with fluorescent tubes. They cost a little more but last much longer, and give an equal amount of light from about one-fourth as much electricity.

Turn off or reduce the use of outdoor lighting. Turn off if it's used only for decorative purposes.

Don't forget — if we all do our part, we can ease the energy crunch.

# IF YOU Ask ME

By Bettye M. Moss

Thinking out loud department:

Monday morning found this writer in Room 215 at the Baltimore City Court House where Judge Robert B. Watts was the presiding jurist in the sensational murder case of Sherman Dobson.

The 20-year-old minister's son was on trial in connection with the July 13 murder of the State legislator, Del. James (Turk) Scott.

Like many Baltimoreans we had been reading the testimony for the past three weeks so we decided to go down and see for ourselves.

Well, in the first place, the Court House room 215 is small and chilly. This reporter kept her coat on during the entire day as lawyers gave their closing arguments.

There are just 13, at the most, seats on the right hand side of the courtroom at the most, five on the left, and 45 seats in the center. For most of the day on Monday all but 19 of the 63 available seats were occupied by black residents, many of them relatives or friends of the well-known Dobson family.

You feel proud when the young clerk announces "all stand, the honorable judge is now approaching" and then there's Judge Watts, concerned about people as he has been all his life. He immediately announces that he'd like to apologize for not being able to convene court promptly at 10 a.m. but says that he and lawyers of both sides had been in conference since 8 a.m. working on an agreement as to the charge to the jury.

And get this! When he walked in at 10:40 a.m. he said, "Good morning ladies and gentlemen" and when he re-convened the afternoon session, "good afternoon ladies and gentlemen."

Like all the other court spectators, this writer hung on every word as Judge Watts gave his 40-minute instruction to the jury.

You could hear a pin drop. There was not even a cough, as he spoke clearly and plainly, much like a teacher, explaining to the jury that its members and they alone were the sole judges of what were facts and it was up to them.

The handsome accused Dobson youth was a picture of composure, even when the prosecuting attorney, Sandra O'Connor, described him as a killer and violator of the law of the land. He sat straight and tall with his hands clasped in his lap, and his right leg crossed over his left, listening, intently but with no emotion showing on his face.

The Monday visit gave me the first opportunity to hear attorneys Kenneth Johnson and Gerald Smith in action.

Mr. Johnson, in some of his mannerisms, reminded this writer of the late George E. C. Hayes, the famed civil rights lawyer. His voice was hardly audible to spectators in the rear of the room as he methodically summed up the case to the jury, walking back and forth. He was effective.

The same was true of his partner, Gerald Smith, although Mr. Smith's voice was more audible to rear of the room.

Both young men, it seemed to this writer, had done a good bit of homework in representing their client.

Of course the same is true of Miss O'Connor, who spoke for the state. Her closing argument and the injection of the Martin Luther King statement, it is wrong to kill, violently wrong, was a smart move.

Cliff now: The young law clerk and bailiff who announces the arrival and the formal opening of Judge Watt's court is none other than Mrs. Elise Jude Mason, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Jude (Vashti). She was looking good and her voice very, very commanding, yet feminine. She is a Baltimore Law School student of Baltimore.

Oddities: The young defense attorney, Gerald Smith is the son of Mrs. Lula Smith and the late Rev. Hiram Smith. And get this: One of the key witnesses against the Dobson youth was Detective Howard Corbin.

Attorney Smith's mother, Mrs. Lula Smith used to live with Detective Corbin's mother when she was a youngster growing up in the 300 block of north Calhoun St. Detective Corbin's mother is Mrs. Susie Elizabeth Corbin, now of Edmondson Avenue.

More Oddities: By the way, Mrs. Smith was in the courtroom to hear her son give the closing argument. Also in the courtroom was his office manager, Mrs. Cynthia Coney.

For the last half of the closing day's arguments, we occupied seats in front of the accused's mother, Mrs. Mildred Turner Dobson. She was in courtroom proper for the first time during the three-week-old trial, and was attractive in a purple pants suit with matching accessories.

Seated in the area near her were children and other relatives. The Rev. Harold Dobson, father of the accused; his brother, the Rev. Vernon Dobson, and minister friend, the Rev. Wendell Phillips; Dr. Homer Favor and Dr. Carl Adair, had to settle for seats in the rear left because the small courtroom was crowded when they arrived.

The writer sought to locate relatives of the slain man, Delegate Scott, in the courtroom. If they were there this writer could not pick them out.

Should an accused feel good or bad if one or two jurors appear to nod during the closing arguments of the case? It is hard to tell. But, I guess after three weeks of trial, one can be excused for taking an occasional nod.

To registered voters — if you want to know what is wrong with the justice system in Baltimore and in Maryland, visit the court house nearest you, where justice is dispensed.

You will be struck by the fact that the majority of persons doing business with the courts are black, but the majority of the judges, who must decide whether the accused is guilty or innocent are white. And, that's a sad commentary.

It was refreshing, however, in the Watts court to note that the 12 person jury included a black male foreman and two other black men, 1 white man and 9 women, 2 of them white, or a total of 3 whites and 9 blacks.

This is to suggest that the jury system is more representative of the total population than the judgeships. Make a note of this as you start thinking ahead for the next elections for governor and sitting judges and determining whether you as a voter would want to support the sitting judge principle, or back a candidate who looks like you and me.

Good neighbors are Cleo Grant, John Mims and Sam McClinton. All are parking attendants at Goldman's Gar