Baltimore Afro-American

OPINION

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Cop malarkey

Aw come on now. In the light of a police departmental hearing that found Stephen McCown guilty as charged in the Ja-Wan McGee shooting incident, daily media has reports that city cops are depressed because the ruling against McCown weakens their position.

Channel 13 Wednesday had the Eyewitness news team muttering about cops not going to be as effective as they were because McCown got a raw deal. What the cops are saying, some reporters keep insisting, is that they are not going to be aggressive and do their job because in doing so they may be embroiled in a McGee type case.

This is a bunch of malarkey.

There is some resentment among some policemen because McCown, a 10-year-veteran, got what they call a raw deal.

Most of the cops who think this way are white and what they really mean is they feel they should not be fired or otherwise penalized for wrongfully shooting black kids.

We all know of that element within the Baltimore police department.

No thoughtful citizen would question any cop who defended himself from violent attack by using the weapons he is authorized to wear or used those weapons in the apprehension of dangerous criminals.

However, we hardly see any good police officer asking himself in such times of high stress whether he should do his job or not because McCown got the sack for doing his job.

The police departmental hearing has made one thing abundantly clear — McCown was found guilty of not doing his job properly.

McCown—post mortem

Stephen McCown, the police officer who shot Ja-Wan McGee in the back leaving him paralyzed, has never backed down, never conceded error.

Through the last day of the departmental hearing where McCown was found guilty as charged by his fellow officers, the young white officer insisted that he fired on McGee to prevent a robbery.

In McCown's world, seemingly, it is the victim who is guilty.

Ja-Wan McGee unarmed, in a pizza parlor on an errand for his mother, was struck down by a bullet through his back.

Two earlier shots had whizzed past his ear in rapid succession.

All anyone can prove McGee did was order a soda in the shop and pull his hands out of his pockets at the wrong time.

McCown thought it was a gun.

The policeman has stuck with this story.

It is a tragic story because at no point in his formal testimony or in casual press interviews had McCown given any apparent clue as to what propelled him to use almost fatal force on an unarmed man who never directly confronted the policeman, in plain clothes at the time.

For McCown to have testified that his decision to fire on McGee was a split-second one based on training and experience, is not only tragic but frightening.

This young white officer in effect told us he felt it correct to have shot someone solely on the basis of what he (McCown) thought they were going to do.

McCown never backed down. He decided Ja-Wan McGee was a robber, he shot him and that is that.

It is this inability to distinguish where being a professional law enforcement worker ends, disregarding evidence, then becoming judge and jury begins, we feel, most seriously damaged McCown in the eyes of his fellow officers.

To our mind McCown's cause was lost as soon we discovered he had trouble pronouncing Ja-Wan's name.

A little thing.

We do not think so. Someone you almost killed should be of great moment in your life. You would not forget a thing like that - would you?

A wrong analysis

We do not agree with political scientist Robert D. Loevy that the rent control referendum in Baltimore last fall "polarized black and white voters in a way that has probably never happened before."

Nor can we agree with him that it was an election that "might better be quickly forgotten."

Writing in the Evening Sun, Dr. Loevy said an analysis of the vote on the rent control issue showed that 79 percent of blacks supported it while just 33 percent of whites backed it.

That is not an unusual racial voting breakdown on issues perceived, rightly or wrongly, to be black-white ones, and it certainly is not an unusual pattern in one examining general voting results in Baltimore when black candidates run citywide against white ones.

In 1976 Baltimoreans voted on a referendum which would have required most city jobs to be filled by city residents. A number of major cities have such a requirement and the Supreme Court has upheld it as a way for cities to employ people who have their best interest at heart.

However, in Baltimore, it was perceived by many as a pro-black racial issue and the referendum lost with 54 percent of voters going against it.

Black voters who cast ballots on the issue supported it by 75 percent, whites by just 37 percent.

In the 1974 primary when former state's attorney Milton B. Allen was defeated by a white candidate broadly viewed in the media as less qualified, blacks gave him 93 percent of their votes but just 26 percent of whites supported Allen. That fall, the write-in attempt by Allen blacks gave him 89 percent of their votes while whites chipped in with just 20 percent.

Low black turnouts hurt in these cases.

Still, those examples should say to election analysts that the vote on the rent control question was neither racially unique nor any more polarizing than many other held in the past. Blacks, from experience, understand more clearly how whites vote in these circumstances than whites like to remember.

What we liked about the results on the rent control question is that the combination of white and black voters added up to a victory on a issue perceived to be racial in many quarters—and that's why we wouldn't want to forget about it.

Civilian review

Dear AFRO:

I am shocked and dismayed by the lack of political support for city councilman Michael Mitchell's bill for civilian review of police department activities.

I strongly feel this would help ease some of the present tension between the police department and the black community by giving the community some input in the decision making concerning allercations between citizens and police officers.

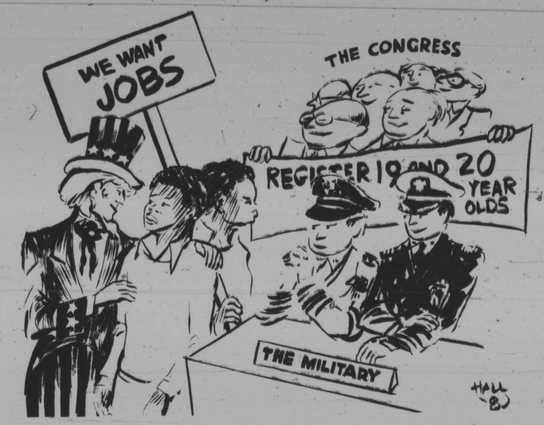
With a seeming increase of "incidents" such as Ja-Wan McGee, Miami and now cowardly attacks by local white "citizens" on blacks, local public officials such as Mayor Schaefer and Commissioner Pomerleau should give this bill more consideration.

High unemployment, rampant racism, and the resulting frustration may lead to more interaction between the black community and the police department.

Responsible legislation such as Councilman Mitchell's shouldn't be abruptly pushed aside without any serious thought of consequences of not having this legislation.

It would be a shame if Baltimore's "Renaissance" went up in smoke, because frustrated members of our community may justifiably feel that local courts andor police trial boards are incapable of dispensing any real justice to the black community.

CHRISTOPHER J. THOMAS



Sorry, we're out of jobs, but the fellows behind the desk are planning some "social activities" for you.

MADELINE MURPHY

Whom God would destroy

Some months back, when a Coppin teacher had been brutally incarcerated, while pregnant, and lost her baby in a prison cell, Mayor William Donald Schaefer promised an outraged group of legislators, including sen. Verda Welcome, Delegates Dean, Phillips and Rawlings City Councilman Kwiesi Mfume that whenever the black community wanted Commissioner Donald Pomerleau to meet with them, Schaefer would see to it that he did.

So much for promises.

Because as the scenario unfolded last week, as a result of the recent Miami riot, when the NAACP asked Pomerleau to attend a meeting to find out what the police department would do in Baltimore to avoid a catastrophe (given recent allegations of police brutality) Pomerleau sent a messenger.

And Deputy Commissioner Bishop Robinson, the messenger, as was the case of old, got verbally clobbered. Pomerleau was called a racist along with Mayor Schaefer, who was also absent.

Then to add insult to injury, a daily newspaper in an editorial heaped part of the burden of solution to the problem of any impending riot in Baltimore upon the victims — the black community leaders. (No mention, of course, that it took a court case against the police department to even increase the numbers of blacks hired and promoted.

What has been left unsaid is that after the riots of the '60s, the Kerner Commission report pointed out that we are facing two separate societies, where police brutality and harassment exacerbate racial problems.

Yet the McGee case, the most publicized of such cases, exhibits the kind of restraint that blacks have exercised. Would that the kind of forbearance were on the side of the police Department!

To accuse the black community of fanning flames of discontent, in light of all the insults, brutality and racism that have been suffered by the black community, shows that the white power structure — particularly the white press (spell that T-H-E-S-U-N) has not cared to deal with this brand of crazy racism that blames the victims rather than the victimizers.

Nor do they learn from the terrifying episodes of the '60s.

For, facing us today still are divisions that the white leadership of this city either ignores or tolerates.

Further, blacks are not blind when they witness revolving door programs like CETA, where training is the end rather than the means toward getting long term employment in the predominantly white private sector.

Who is really concerned about the teeming unemployment among our young black men? How can black leaders help this dilemma?

Blacks are not blind either when they see the alternative to jobs is jail in disproportionate numbers of their brothers and sisters. The hysteria for more and bigger prisons is a deliberate step toward escalating police brutality and harassment and goading the predominantly white justice system into cynical solutions for societal problems.

What do black leaders do in this regard? What is there really left for black leaders to do about problems beyond their control?

Except maybe to calm people down, get them off the streets, start Operation Champ programs, or sports spectaculars, which only divert attention momentarily from an aching stomach, a rat infested crowded house, the distress of being unable to care for their families, yet annoyed and dismayed by a veiw of a different and better life through that big eye of a 19 - inch screen.

Somehow it seems the black community is being egged on to erupt by this inaction, by this callous mistreatment, to give those who hate us an excuse to punish us further.

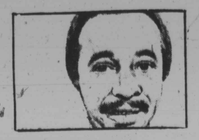
And in the face of promises not kept, in the face of a police commissioner who is a law unto himself, by his arrogance and disinterest, by this disregard for the feelings and fears of the black community, massive benign neglect, foisted upon us by the white community, is actually what is making matters worse.

With the waylaying of blacks in white neighborhoods, with the sniping of children's bedrooms in black housing projects, with hostility all around, perhaps it is time for whites to chastise, berate and punish these dissident groups in their own communities, also, to soft - pedal all their racist ravings; to develop human relations programs that would heal the cleavage between these separate societies.

But it is hard to undo this calculated hatred that refuses to admit to its own lunacy. And so, the leaders scapegoat, scream and dissemble.

Small comfort that "Whom God would destroy He first makes mad."

PARREN MITCHELL



Nation's courts—help and hindrance

Caught in the waves of this nation's economic and social unrest, the nation's courts appear to be rocking the boat themselves through rulings which, though sometimes opposite in direction, have the same effect: the dilution of black voters' ability to help run this nation's cities.

Forexample, this past April, the U.S. Supreme Court, in the case of City of Mobile vs. Bolden, ruled six to three that the at-large voting system in Mobile, Ala., does not violate the constitutional voting rights of that city's black citizens. Two lower courts had ruled earlier that system does violate the voting rights of citizens in Mobile.

This case, challenging the at-large voting system, was introduced on behalf of Mobile's black citizens, who make up more than 35 percent of the city's total population. However, no black person has ever been elected to Mobile's three member governing body, the City Commission. The Federal District Court declared the voting system unconstitutional.

Although minorities could vote freely, because they are out numbered, the at-large system virtually insures that majority back candidates will always win. The District Court ordered that the at-large voting system be changed so that Council members would be elected by district.

Two blacks were then chosen to the city school board to represent two predominantly black districts of Mobile. The United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit backed this action.

Why, then, did the Supreme Court overturn the earlier decisions? The court ruled that the discriminatory effect of the at-large voting system was not sufficient to declare this system unconsititutional. Intent to discriminate must be proven.

Such a requirement is vague and extremely difficult to meet, especially if an obvious history of discrimination is judged to be virtually not relevant, as Justice Potter Stewart, who wrote the four-man plurality, indicates. (Two other justices agreed to the final decision, but for different reasons. Justice Stewart wrote:

"Past discrimination cannot, in the manner of original sin, condemn governmental action that is not itself unlawful."

Justice Thurgood Marshall, one of the three dissenting justices, wrote that the Supreme Court decision "provides the politically powerless with nothing more than the right to cast meaningless ballots . . ."

If the voting system in Mobile is not unlawful, it is unfair. Even though the Constitution, as Justice Stewart wrote, "does not entail the right that the people of the nation be represented by elected officials.

Congresspersons, for example, are elected to represent various districts of a state. Why, then, should not council members be elected from respective district of a city, so that closer representation of all the people might be achieved?

The at-large voting system in Mobile serves to restrict the voting power and legislative power of a group of people. It does not matter that those people happen to be black, though in this instance they are.

Any tax paying citizens or group of citizens who do not receive a concrete opportunity, not just an opportunity on paper, to elect representative officials are being disserved by that government.

In fact, in cities with predominantly black populations and city councils, such as Washington, D.C., the courts may sometimes limit the power — not of the voters — but of the elected officials. For example, this May, the D.C. Court of Appeals handed down a ruling limiting the power of the D.C. City Council to pass emergency legislation.

Increasingly, minorities and even non-minorities must watch more closely the actions of our Court System.

Advice from Douglass alumna, class of 1940

Stop playing around—get back to real education

By Frances Murphy-Campbell

Next time you hear a man like Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, D-7th, speak, don't just be proud of this well-trained black man, but ask yourself, "Is my child getting as good an education as Mitchell did 40 years ago at Douglass High School in Baltimore.

Congressman Mitchell's poise, diction and his inquisitive mind were nurtured by teachers who cared, teachers who believed that education was not just theory for the classroom.

How do I know? I was one of the hundreds who walked those same hallways of Douglass High School with people like Congressman Mitchell.

Other nationally known Douglass graduates are Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, Cab Calloway, Arctic explorer Herbert Frisby, the late AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper publisher Carl Murphy, cardiology chief Dr. Elijah Saunders of Provident Hospital, Baltimore; Avon Long, who was Chicken George in "Roots," and many more.

Mitchell's February 1940 class had 187 graduates. My June 1940 class had 207 graduates — all black. The teachers were also black.

This June 28 and 29 in Baltimore my June '40 class will celebrate its 40th reunion with a dinner-dance, picnic and Sunday morning worship. Since I cannot attend, I put together my high school program, invitations, certificates, etc., in a scrapbook to send to my classmates. By the time I reached page 54, the tremendous education we had received at Douglass was crystal clear.

Our 11th grade academic schedule included French, Latin, biology, history and English. Each subject was taken five days a week for 45-minute periods. Mathematics, music and oral English were one day a week and there were two periods of physical education. You saw your homeroom teacher three times a day—morning, lunch and at dismissal.

The whole school gathered at 8:45 a.m. in the auditorium to "develop good group manners."

The opening included the Salute to the Flag and the Lord's Prayer. Regular days ended at 2:45 p.m. Days with a monthly assembly ended at 2:50 p.m.

In the 1936-37 Douglass High School "Guide Book" it is noted that the important types of study are "memory work, the use of books as tools, the acquisition of skills for problem solving, and standards of taste for appreciation and enjoyment."

Outside the classroom teachers offered students eight Douglass High School traditions. These were the Class Day Program, the year book called the "Survey," Senior Prom, Varsity Day, Annual Outing, Baccalaureate Sermon, Teachers' Reception to Seniors and the making of graduation dresses by senior high school girls majoring in home economics.

There were programs given by various school clubs for Negro History Week, Defenders Day, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas, Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Easter, Arbor Day, Decoration Day and Flag Day. You learned to preside, debate and make yourself heard.

The faculty members sponsored 60 or more clubs including the Book Lovers, Douglass Ballet, Mask and Wig Dramatic Club, Mathematics Club, Hostess, Know Your City, Microscope, Science, Negro History, Public Speaking, Radio, World Today and Trigonometry.

There was also the Douglass High School Honor Society which was founded in 1925 and identified with the National Honor Society in 1928. Membership was limited to 15 percent of the graduating seniors; 10 percent of first semester seniors and five percent of the second semester juniors. No one gave you anything. You earned the grade.

The faculty also operated a school bank "to encourage students to be savers and wise spenders." The bank motto was "Save Today; Enjoy Tomorrow."

The bank staff consisted of a president, four vice-presidents, secretary and four directors on each floor of the school building. Each class had its own bookkeeper and teller. A certificate was awarded to a student who made a deposit every banking day.

HISTORIC SITE — This AFRO file photo, circa 1940, shows Douglass High School when it was located at Carey and Baker Sts. AFRO file photo

Other activities offered Douglass pupils to learn "enduring lessons of cooperation and leadership" included the Students' Council, Safety Patrol, Monitorial Staff, Safety Council, athletics including golf and soccer; intramural contests including table tennis, golf, badminton and rifle-shooting, and such musical organizations as the Choral Club and Orchestra and the Piano and Music History Clubs.

Failure at Douglass High School was not taken lightly. The Guide Book states:

"If a pupil is doing unsatisfactory work, the subject teacher will send to the parent or guardian a warning card or note explaining the situation and asking for cooperation from home.

"As soon as the teacher notes evidence of failure, he will send this notice without waiting for the end of the marking period.

"Parents and guardians of all pupils doing unsatisfactory work will be sent formal notice of the facts about the middle of October and the middle of December. These should be the occasion of heart-to-heart and head-to-head conferences and special guidance for particular weaknesses. Wholesome attitudes toward success and failure should result from these conferences.

"Most failures are due to lack of willpower or lack of ability to do the work."

In the '40s, blacks could attend only two high schools in Baltimore. They were Douglass High School which was founded in 1867 and Dunbar High School which graduated its first class in June '40. Private and church schools limited enrollment to "white only." This meant that all of the black Baltimoreans educated through 1939 graduated from Douglass.

Baltimore schools were not integrated until 1954 which also explains why native Baltimoreans in a certain age group who are businessmen, professionals, government workers, etc., all know each other.

In addition to the rich heritage Douglass gave its students, the black community also enhanced the cultural life of the city by many activities.

Programs in my scrapbook include a concert by the late Philippa Duke Schuyler, May 30, 1940. At the age of eight she had written her 62nd composition. At seven years of age Philippa had won a silver medallion at the New York World's Fair and had been selected Woman of Tomorrow by the Club Women of Brooklyn, N.Y.

John McCraw, blind pianist, gave a concert Nov. 30, 1940, where Ellis Lane Larkins, Douglass '40, also a gifted pianist, was master of ceremonies. In the scrapbook are programs for rehearsals of the City Colored Orchestra conducted by our high school teacher, the late W. Llewellyn Wilson.

Other cultural activities attended by many Douglass students included the Negro Little Theater which presented a comedy, "Why Marry," at the Baltimore Museum of Art May 12, 1939, and the Choral Club and Orchestra of Douglass High School presentation of the opera "The Chimes of Normandy," May 1937. Some 48 faculty members and 155 students participated in this latter activity.

But one of the most elaborate programs was the Art Guild's presentation of Sheldon B. Hoskins and his concert group in recital at the Baltimore Ford's Theater, May 27, 1938.

This dance recital had five parts and included a wide range of rhythmic and physical expressions including minuets, toe rhythms, ballet, chair tap (Parren Mitchell was included in this group), African rhythms and the waltz.

The scrapbook has invitations to parties, dances and spring festivals with the names of chaperons printed on the invitations. There are also newspaper clippings including one about the fourth annual Christmas party by the Mask and Wig Club where 1,000 children came to the Douglass High School auditorium to see three short plays. They were:

"The Wondering Boy," "Snow White and Rose Red," adapted by Lucretia Lipscomb, Douglass '40, and "The Toy Shop," written by Gloria Minor (now Phillips), Douglass, '40. The faculty adviser was Miss Nellie Buchanan.

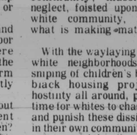
All Douglass High School students carried identification cards. In addition they purchased activities cards for $1 and had a pass to ride the streetcar or trolley if they lived far enough away from school.

The Douglass High School Guide Book states, "The school aims to help each pupil to do better the worth while things he will have to do anyhow, both now and in the future; to train the pupil to select more wisely what his work shall be in school and out and to teach and inspire good citizenship—an inclusive vocation. No pupil can escape the choice of what he must do and what he must be..."

That is what is called education

Frances Murphy-Campbell is associate professor, department of journalism, broadcasting and speech at Buffalo State College, Buffalo, N.Y.

A NEW DAY BEGUN



Samuel BANKS

Morgan's crisis continues

The narrow decision (seven to five) of Morgan State University's board of regents to sustain the embattled presidency of Dr. Andrew Billingsley represents, at best, a Pyrrhic victory — a "victory" at a monumental cost.

Morgan State University, beset with enormous internal encumbrances and difficulties, remains in a state of profound and continuing crisis.

Trust — the element so vital and necessary for Morgan to achieve its institutional goals and objectives has been shattered and eviscerated.

The board of regents, too, in its sharply divided vote to retain Dr. Billingsley does not provide for the university and the broader community assurance that unity can be effectuated.

The time has come for the board of regents to talk sense to the various publics (viz., students, faculty, alumni, community organizations, concerned citizens) which have a genuine and deep interest in the necessity of a strong, united and vibrant Morgan.

In this conjunction, there are urgent and pivotal questions which remain clear and present:

1. How will the retention of Dr. Andrew Billingsley provide the trust and unity necessary for Morgan to move forward?

2. What strategies or mechanisms will be utilized by Dr. Billingsley, in a presidency viewed as flawed by a substantial number of Morgan's faculty, students and alumni, achieve, with a clearly divided board of regents, a spirit of collegiality and openness so necessary for serious intellectual inquiry, research and community outreach?

3. How, in the short-run, can the chasm between Dr. Billingsley and the Faculty Senate which has twice voted "no confidence" foremost clientele — its students?

4. What strategies will be utilized to offset the negative and disquieting community and state perceptions of discord, disarray and internecine warfare within the university? In short, how will parents and prospective students be reassured that the lack of unity and trust between the president and faculty will not erode the quality of education made available to the student body?

5. How will the university terminate the shortfall in monies and develop creative and imaginative ways to attract additional human and monetary resources necessary to function as a university?

The answers to these questions, among others, require immediate, direct and precise responses if Morgan is to achieve its institutional goals and objectives and, more importantly, to survive.

Dr. Andrew Billingsley, a widely respected and distinguished scholar, faces a formidable and uneviable task in starting anew to achieve a vigorous and sound Morgan, establish trust and collegiality and to assure, with the support of the many publics which are served by Morgan, the survival of Morgan State University.

If ever there was a time for the university to close ranks, if it can, it is now.

The broader community must now wait and work in a positive manner to help this troubling saga in Morgan's life to pass propitiously. It is, to be sure, a fitful period.

FOR ALL WE KNOW

By Elizabeth M. Oliver
City Editor

ON VACATION and enjoying my neighborhood downtown at Charles Center, my daugher Marsha and I attended an hour-long Christian Science Lecture in Hopkins Plaza.

The outdoor event is popular with business persons on lunch hour and the beautiful arena near to the Federal Building and the fountains made a perfect setting complete with comfortable seats.

The crowd streamed in from near and far and included also members of the Christian Science churches in Baltimore and neighboring areas.

USHERS were young members of all races. All smiling and welcoming the throng, they gave away the newly printed books "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy and the King James Version of the Holy Bible.

The volumes in beautifully colored covers are the priceless possessions of those who believe and cherish the faith. It is not unusual that many persons are healed during the lectures.

AMONG LISTENERS who arrived from the skyscrapers and wondrous Charles Center glass buildings were bankers, officials of some of the nation's most prestigious and influential firms as well as others from all walks of life.

It is known that members of the Christian Science Church hold some of the highest offices in the land, head corporations and lead in all professions. Obviously they enjoy the best of health and without any show or boasting, enjoy abundance.

THEY ARE HUMBLE, smiling and seem to live on higher ground. As they explain modestly, they have achieved high spiritual being.

EACH CHRISTIAN SCIENCE lecturer is well trained and without a note speaks for one hour exactly, not a moment longer. In the talk are specific points which lead up to definite information which even a child can grasp. There are no secrets, just plain facts based on the Bible.

Mary Baker Eddy discovered the science of Christian healing and the way of life ("In God we live and move and have our being" in 1866. Today, Christian Science is embraced around the world.

Cutting hot water costs

Mel de Rutledge Jr.

Urban America Housing Report

With the costs of heating fuels skyrocketing, thoughts of next winter are already sending chills through the pocketbooks of many Americans.

Homeowners are gearing up for a new winter sport — the name of the game is "cutting home heating costs". The problem is that no matter what you do, you won't win any gold medals.

Insulation

The first thing you can do to conserve energy in this area is insulate. If your water heater is fairly old, chances are that it is not very well insulated, so you can start by having the tank's exterior insulated.

When buying a new water heater, be sure to get one with thick insulation on the shell. While this may cost a little more, the added expense will be recovered quickly in energy savings.

Also, since the temperature of the hot water drops considerably (by 10 to 20 degrees) as it travels from the heater to the fixture being used, it is a good idea to insulate any hot water pipes that are exposed to unheated areas.

No matter what other steps you take, insulating is a good idea. It is relatively inexpensive and will retain heat that would otherwise be wasted.

Water Temperature

How hot is your hot water? In most houses the water heater temperature is set at 140 degrees fahrenheit or higher. In many cases, this is higher than is necessary.

If you do not have a dishwasher, the temperature can be turned down considerably. Dishwashers present a problem in that in order to cut the grease and fat on dishes, the water temperature has to be at least 140 degrees.

Even if you pre - clean your dishes to remove most grease, you still cannot lower the water temperature very much since the water has to be about 120 degrees to dissolve most dishwasher detergents.

Energy saving tip for dishwashers: Do not use the "rinse - hold" on your machine — three to seven gallons of hot water are consumed every time you use this cycle.

Also, remember that unless you use cold water detergents, your clothes washer requires a water temperature of 120 degrees. Obviously, cold or warm water washes with cold rinses save a lot in heating costs.

According to government reports, a reduction of water temperature from 140 degrees (medium) to 120 degrees (low) could save over 18 percent of the energy you use at the higher setting. Even reducing the setting by 10 degrees will save more than 6 percent in water - heating energy.

According to the National Bureau of Standards, bathing accounts for 42 percent of the total volume of hot water used in a house. Here is another area that needs attention.

Here are some figures to consider: It takes about 30 gallons of water to fill the average size tub. A five - minute shower can use any where from 30 to 50 gallons, depending on the gallon - per - minute requirements of your showerhead.

By using an inexpensive, and easy - to - install flow restrictor in the pipe at the showerhead (some showerheads now have them built - in), you can reduce the average flow of water from eight down to three gallons per minute.

Thus, a five - minute shower would use 15 gallons instead of 40 gallons. Assuming you use half hot and half cold water for bathing, you'd be saving about 12.5 gallons of hot water per shower.

So if the members of your family each take one shower a day, a flow restricter could save you over 4,500 gallons of hot water a year per person. And that boils down to pretty handsome cuts in energy use and costs.

Glossary of real estate terms

Assignment of Rents — An agreement signed between the property owner and mortgagee specifically listing the rights and obligations of each under a lease affecting the property.

Associate Broker — A person who has qualified as a real estate broker but works for a principal broker licensed in the state.

Assumption Fee — The fee paid to a lender (usually by the purchaser of real property) resulting from the assumption of a mortgage.

Assumption of Mortgage — Assumption by a purchaser of the primary liability for payment of an existing mortgage or deed of trust. The seller remains secondarily liable unless specifically released by the lender.

Attornment (Attorn) — The act of a tenant agreeing to become the tenant of a new landlord and to regard him as the new owner of the premises and to pay rent to him.

Auction — A method of selling real or personal property. An auctioneer asks for bids and, upon receipt of the highest bid, completes the sale

—LETTERS—

Ex-alumni president says Billingsley must leave Morgan

Dear AFRO:

I have been an active member of the Morgan Alumni Association since graduating in 1970. I served in various capacities in the local chapter and the National Alumni Association.

Since 1974, I have served on the board of the National Alumni Association and was president of the board from May 1977 until October 1979. I became a life member of the Alumni Association in March of 1980.

During my tenure on the National Alumni Board and especially the period in which I was president, I gained tremendous insight into the internal affairs of Morgan and I have arrived at the regrettful conclusion that Morgan State University needs new leadership.

The board of regents must ask for the resignation of Dr. Andrew Billingsley.

The faculty is divided. Morale is dismally low. There is lack of communication and the free exchange of ideas which is essential to the functioning of a great university.

The most important mission of a university is preparing its students to face the challenges of a rapidly changing society. It appears to me that the student has been forgotten in the present turmoil.

The entire Morgan community has been consumed with the fate of Dr. Andrew Billingsley. No one man is worth the destruction of Morgan State University.

The internal upheaval at Morgan will not cease until the present administrator, Dr. Andrew Billingsley, is removed.

Just recently, two of our finest and most respected administrators resigned resigned: Dr. Clayton Stansbury, vice president for student affairs to return to the classroom and George Grant, director of the Soper Library.

Dr. Wright Lassiter, vice president for business and finance resigned to take another position in New York. There has been a constant turnover of administrators during the tenure of Dr. Billingsley.

The faculty of Morgan has spoken on two occasions. First, the faculty voted no confidence and then the Faculty Senate voted to request the board of recents to ask for the resignation of Dr. Andrew Billingsley. The board of recente cannot just ignore the will of the faculty.

Morgan isin the midst of a fiscal crisis, which I must admit is not entirely the fault of Dr. Billingsley. But, it appears that the key legislators in Annapolis which must approve any plans for resolving the crisis have lost confidence in Dr. Billingsley also.

Several members of the board of regents and some of the black legislators have been supportive of Dr. Billingsley because they objected to the personalities and tactics of the major Billingsley protagonists on the campus. The tenure of president should not be decided because of personal attitudes.

The issue is the survival of Morgan State University; not Dr. Andrew Billingsley.

Dr. Billingsley has been the center of controversy since coming to Morgan. Morgan needs new leadership to instill confidence in the faculty, staff, students, parents of the students, the alumni, legislature and the greater Baltimore community, especially the black community.

The action the board of Regents undertakes in the next few weeks could decide the fate of Morgan for years to come.

LEONARD T. JACKSON,
Immediate Past President, MSU
National Alumni Association

—MORE LETTERS—

'Remove Charles Colson from planning commission'

Dear AFRO:

The Harwood Community Improvement Association wants to add its voice to those urging the removal of Charles Colson from his post as acting commissioner of City Planning. We feel it is totally inappropriate that a man with his record of irresponsibility toward the public should be granted a position of public trust.

The record speaks for itself.

First, his ownership of numerous grossly sub - standard rental properties is not compatible with leading a planning commission charged with improving life in this city.

Second, his lending his name to the patently misleading (and even dishonest) campaign literature of the "Keep Baltimore Best" committee during the rent control campaign, indeed, even his very leadership position in such a partisan group, casts grave doubt on his ability to work for the general good instead of that of narrow self - interest.

We strongly urge that Charles Colson be replaced in the very near future with someone who will bring a genuine concern for the interests of the Baltimore public to the post of Planning Commissioner.

NANCY MOORE,
Secretary,
Harwood Association