Baltimore Afro-American

OPINION

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DECEMBER 6, 1980

Mathias' pledge

As the Reagan era begins, as the doomsayers lament and the right-wing nuts its collective hands in anticipation, it is extremely refreshing to hear the strong clear voice of the senior U. S. Senator from Maryland vowing anew to carry on the good fight.

Moderate Republican Sen. Charles Mathias of Maryland has warned that the conservative gains in last month's election are being taken by some as "A license to declare open season on our civil liberties."

Senator Mathias vows to fight such assaults.

In a speech prepared for the New York Anti - Defamation League appeal, a Jewish organization, Mathias said, "In this election, forces surfaced in our society that threaten our historic commitment to protecting minority rights. These forces will not soon, nor easily, be laid to rest."

He mentioned fellow Republican Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N. C., and by implication, Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S C., the incoming chairman of the judiciary committee on which Mathias serves. He also attacked the moral majority and noted that the Ku Klux Klan, the Nazi Party and "Ominous outbreaks of anti-semitism are on the rise in America."

He said no one would deny that the same conditions of inflation, cultural malaise and frustrated nationalism that existed in pre-Nazi Germany exist in the United States today.

It is not just he said, "To see that they do not lead us down the road to disaster we want to avoid the errors of Pre-Nazi experience, we must take alarm at the slightest leak in the direction of our civil liberties."

Ronald Reagan's election, he said, did not necessarily represent a popular turn to the right, but resulted from the public's fear of the future under President Carter.

What troubles me is that some groups and individuals seem to have drawn a lesson from the election that it doesn't teach. There are disquieting signs on Capitol Hill, for example, that the election results are taken as a license to to declare open season on our Civil Liberties.

Mathias cites these examples: Fundamentalist ministers questioning whether God hears the prayers of Jews.

Senators using questionable procedural tactics to roll back Civil Rights gains, including helms and Thurmond's recent success in blocking the Justice Department from seeking court-ordered busing.

The Heritage Foundation, a Conservative think tank advising Reagan, recommending revival of at least one internal security committee in congress and easing restrictions on FBI break-ins, wiretaps and mail-openings.

"As a refugee from President Nixon's enemies list, "Mathias said, "I admit to a special sensitivity about relaxing those safeguards. And, as one of those targeted for defeat this year by the self-styled Moral Majority, I admit to a certain bias where that group is concerned."

What we like about Mathias declaration is that he not only details the drift to right-wing aims and attitudes in this country but pledges himself to do all he can to keep this know nothingness and possible oppression from gaining a foothold.

The Senator carried Baltimore City for the first time in his many campaigns in the past election.

Obviously heavily Democratic Baltimore and specifically black Baltimore increasingly perceives Mathias as a political leader not afraid to buck popular trends and stand on principles.

Senator Mathias has made his position clear as the new administration takes over he obviously is going to need all the support from home he can muster.

Let's back Mac!.

The strike

The recent developments in the contract negotiations between hospital management and union officials bring to mind the all too true fact that the masses are generally ignorant of the real forces that affect them.

No employee, no matter who he is, is going to understand the little things that are making this negotiation session as difficult as it has been. Nobody is ever going to know what happened years ago in the back room that might be exposed today—on the side of union or management.

But no employee, no matter who he is, deserves to be used or led in the direction for the self-satisfying purposes of any corporation or any entity.

'Buddy' Lonesome

Milton Buddy Lonesome was perhaps the quintessential Baltimore AFRO reporter during the fifties.

He was college-trained, but thoroughly street-wise. He wrote with exceptional clarity, wit and skill.

He was tough, insisting on his rights as a journalist and this newspaper's rights particularly with the local police at a time when black media was resisted at every turn by the oppressors.

"Buddy" had those for news journalists always talk about but seldom displayed. He could write with equal passion about crime or the church. He could portray cabbages and kings. Behind his aggressiveness was an often gentle heart. He was a soft touch for a hard luck story or a sometimes obvious con.

You crossed Lonesome, however, at your own peril. He understood the power of the press and with pen he seldom abused it he could burn stuffed shirts and phonies to jelly with a well-turned and aimed phrase.

It it happened in Baltimore during his AFRO days and Buddy

An organization in the black community that exhorts the need for unity, a purpose long awaited is the Committee on Political Equality.

Its main objective is to elect black citywide officials, starting with a massive voter registration program. The rallying cry is for 1983 — the citywide elections for that year are mayor, comptroller and president of the City Council — thus the acronym COPE '83.

Last Monday, most of Baltimore's movers and shakers, including all elected black officials, assembled at the Blue Crest North for a dinner that might be called the First Black Donor Dinner. For out of pledges and money, that evening alone, $65,000 was raised, which heartily suggests that these black folks are about some serious business.

Also there was the rousing spirit of old time religion with the theme song "the color of your skin makes no difference", written and sung by Damiata Jo winding up with fervent audience participation.

The enthusiasm of the group was hard to contain even though many times they had to be hushed and reminded that this was a business meeting.

COPE '83's fact sheet traced the sobering statistics, especially the black community's role in Baltimore city politics. We have been woefully underrepresented even though we are 60 percent of the population.

Mayor Richard G. Hatcher, Gary, Indiana black mayor, set the tone as he compared that majority figure to South Africa. He said in his keynote address that "Where a minority controls and oppresses the majority, there is injustice. We do not intend to accept it any longer."

Hatcher praised the group for starting early — not the 11th hour as is our wont — of acting in concert, taking collective steps to achieve our goals and objectives.

This latter alone he considered a unique position and posture for us since we are usually guilty of divisiveness and division. Most of all Hatcher was gratified that we were paying our own way to accomplish our ends.

He said, "I knew you were serious when you began giving your own money." He added that given the hints of what President - elect Reagan will cut in social programs it was time that we depend upon ourselves to make change for ourselves.

Further, in his commendation, he suggested that this committee might be a model for other cities where blacks are oppressed — yet in the majority.

In responding to COPE's aim to register voters, Hatcher revealed that the black voting performance was plummeting — for 60 percent in 1968 to a scant 40 percent in 1980, at a time when there are 10 million blacks registered, nationwide, while 8 million are not.

If we continue this way, he said, rather than blame the administration, we shall defeat ourselves in not exercising the right to cast our votes. He stated, however, that we also must give people a reason to come out and vote.

We are now a "Government in Exile", Mayor Hatcher proclaimed, where we must develop programs along the lines of economic development, domestic policy as well as foreign policy. In this regard we must not forget that we are tied-to Africa/to the Third World. For, according to Hatcher, in its foreign policy, its alienation of Africa, of the Third World, where all the oil and minerals are, the United States has a lot of changing to do. "The way it treats its minority citizens," he added, "is a factor in the way it operates internationally.

"It is through this kind of strategy that we become a political, economic, and social force in this country."

Moreover, he said, we cannot avoid the world view for we must forge a new world order. We must strive for peace in a dangerous time when the powers of destruction, the ruination of our family structure are also tied to world peace.

But most forceful of all was Mayor Hatcher's characterization of Tonto and the Lone Ranger where Tonto was the go-fer, the peacemaker with the hostile Indians, the one who watched the horses, made the coffee without even a "thank you" from the Lone Ranger. We must be reminded, he warned, of those in our own community who follow the same pattern of being the go - between, the deputies for the colored, the blindly - loyal slaves to the establishment.

It is no wonder, he remarked that the Spanish translation for the name "Tonto" is idiot. Hatcher suggested that there were already too many "Tontos".

We must pledge in COPE, he concluded, that there will be no more "Tontos".

Someone remarked to this writer that already there were those among the group who couldn't wait to drop a dime in the phone to inform upon the meeting. Another said, "I like the program, but am skeptical about the players, since the average age of those on the committees is 55.

But we must give this gestating group —7 months in the making — a chance to strengthen its fetus and nourish its child before we criticize.

At least Unity was born Monday night. Unity is what we should work for constantly.

Only our money must make the difference between a burgeoning adult democracy or an adolescent autocracy. We the people must share in the machinery of this promising birth — in the role of decision makers, rightfully the parents' responsibility.

We, the people

Concern and aid for the aging

Last month I participated in a Congressional update at Morgan State University, sponsored jointly by the Maryland State Office on Aging and the Center for Urban Environmental Studies.

The focus was on the aged, and I openly expressed my alarm at some very disturbing facts which continue to prevail throughout this nation.

The burden of inflation on the elderly is exceptional, both in terms of the items they buy and their reduced ability to buy due to lower money incomes.

These and other reasons have compelled me to actively support the following initiatives:

1. Public Law 96-58 and Public Law 96-249 (The Food Stamp Act Amendments of 1979 and 1980 respectively)

96-58 - Increased the authorized appropriations for the program and made several substantial changes in food stamp rules affecting the elderly and disabled recipients who have substantial medical expenses or very high shelter costs; (2) requiring that disabled residents of small group homes be allowed eligibility for food stamps.

96-249 - Again increased the authorized appropriations for the program. Also reduced future increased in benefits and eligibility standards and made a number of changes in rules affecting the elderly and the disabled. Changes include: (1) lowering the limit on allowable liquid assets - to $1,500 (from $1,750) for all non-elderly households and single-person elderly households, (2) excluding any energy assistance payments from being treated as income or food stamp purposes.

2. Low Income Energy Assistance (Public Law 96-126)

In addiotn to providing the regular 1980 Interior Department appropriations, this law provides $1.35 billion in funding for energy assistance to low-income households.

3. Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1979 (Public Law 96-153)

With respect to housing for the elderly and the handicapped assisted by Section 202, HUD authorizes additional loans of $527.5 million (exclusive of $340 million previously authorized) for FY 1982.

In selecting projects, the Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to consider the extent to which the proposed projects will assist tin stabilizing or revitalizing neighborhoods or in providing housing for elderly or handicapped families in neighborhoods from which they might be displaced.

Along with my continued support of such pending legislation as, H.R. 7551, the Prevention, Identification, and Treatment Adult Abuse Act of 1980; and, H.R. 6194, the Medicaid - Community Act of 1980, I have endorsed an additional initiative by House Select Aging Committee Chairman Claude Peper.

The enactment of House Resolution 144 enhances the effectiveness of the Aging Committee by providing statutory staff to carry out its objectives.

Even with a limited staff and having to work in cooperation with other committees, the Select Aging Committee has helped to bring about an end to all aged-based mandatory retirement for almost all Americans under age 70, increased the availability of home health care and congregate housing service as alternatives to institutionalization; enacted on anti-crime program for public housing residents; and, fostered the provision of home-delivered meals to housebound elderly persons.

It is only fitting that the Select Aging Committee should be given an opportunity to develop a yearly budget to plan appropriate committee activities in an expeditous manner.

Certainly the addressing of such problems as, inadequate retirement income from Social Security and private pensions, skyrocketing health costs not covered by Medicare and Medicaid, and substandard care provided other residents in nursing homes, cannot wait.

These are some of the priority areas which the Committee will continue to bring to the forefront. We should not deny this body the chance to operate at full capacity.

The enactment of House Resolution 144 and others will hopefully move us forward in the area of equitable treatment of our nation's elderly.

Also, Sen. Clarence Blount, City Councilmen Kweisi Mfume, Norman V.A. Reever, Clarence (Du) Burns, Sen. Bob Douglass, William (Little Willie) Adams, Raymond V. Haysbert, Henry G. Parks, Dels. Frank Conaway, John W. Douglass;

The same is true for the people behind the scenes who were instrumental in the elections of Billy Murphy to the Supreme Bench and the re - election of Judge Robert Bell to the same post.

Other names coming to mind as assets to the stated goals of COPE '83 include:

Dels. Walter Dean, Margaret H. Murphy, Wendell H. Phillips, Howard (Pete) Rawlings, Larry Young, Court Clerks William Allen, Saundra Banks, and Elmer O. Harris.

There are many other productive and aggressive community leaders whose talents should not be overlooked.

It is no secret that past experiences have shown us that it has been easy to get some of these individuals and their organizations to work together as it is to light fire with gasoline.

This is not to say, however, that it can't be done. Hopefully, black Baltimoreans have matured to the point where they recognize that they are dealing with the political survival of the majority population of a major American city.

Citizens of color in such diverse cities as Detroit, Los Angeles, Richmond, Atlanta, Gary, and Washington, D.C. reached that point long ago.

It can be done in Baltimore! It can only be done, however, if the individuals — and organizations are involved in the deliberations and decisions of COPE '83.

Further, these deliberations and decisions — if they are to win the support of the total black community — must be conducted and arrived at in an open and above board fashion.

Otherwise, COPE '83 will be destined to become just another futile effort of tilting at windmills.

The net result of that will leave black Baltimoreans in the backwaters of political oppression in a city not known for its sensitivity to the hopes and aspirations of its people.

Constructive thoughts

By Madeline W. Murphy

At the black donor dinner last week, for COPE '83, Congressman Parren J. Mitchell gave an excellent blue print, fashioned after army organization which might divide COPE operations into six areas of hard, steadfast work.

First was administration, where a tightly run organization would be able to develop sound policies, oversight of plans and programs, directing the troops.

Second was Intelligence Gathering, where we must know who our enemy is and what our enemy is about. Most notably if for citywide election in '85, we challenge the mayor, we must find out who the shadow government is, how its money is obtained, and who has the authority. Research and fact finding are absolute necessities.

Certainly there are numerous questions to ask about which we must find answers. The house of cards must be tumbled when we are armed with these facts to cause the inner sanctum to disintegrate. After all, how long must this "pants - pocket - bookkeeping" go on with our tax dollars?

Third, is Logistics and Training. No troops can win a battle without knowing where to strike and how to go about it.

It would be a crying shame that if we set up the mechanism for COPE '83, without the safeguards of self - discipline; of self - evaluation; of accountability; we shall have no more in the way of enlightened black leadership than we do now.

Moreover, there are those of us who have a healthy suspicion of any large group that attempts to do our planning for us. There is fear of hidden agendas, which comes naturally from all past experiences. History is prologue.

Further, we have indeed had the bitter experiences of candidates running, who conveniently drop out at the last minute, or play dead, who are bought off, who attempt to split the black vote, who are engulfed in their thinking by the power structure, when either elected or appointed, because they feel they only owe their allegiance to that power structure. Then there are the interlopers.

These bitter experiences have left the black voter, once motivated, badly disillusioned and willing to speak ill of all politicians, ashamed of the process.

It is to laugh when one even thinks of "feasible maximum participation of the poor" on boards and commissions. A group where some are manipulated, cheaply bought because they are hungry, uninformed or misinformed, or political prostitutes, from the git - go. Ours is a sad history of "Tontos."

And unless we are willing to place the ideal, the spirit of accountability to the black community into the mainstream of planning for COPE '83, all the theme songs, the poignant moments won't amount to that proverbial snow ball in Hell.

If we are dedicated to that "Government in Exile" that Mayor Hatcher spoke so eloquently about, we then must put down the ideas of self - aggrandizement of wishy - washy confrontation, of secret deals, otherwise we remain the paper tigers we have become since the fuming 60s.

The last 10 to 15 years under this veil of tears should have taught us something.

YEAR OF THE FAMILY

Proud fathers

By Marlene M. Banfield

Cheers for proud fathers who know how to amuse an 18 - month old son while standing in a bank line.

It was a Friday at 12:30 p.m. in a Howard Street Bank. Adults were lined up from the front door to a teller's window to cash checks. A stocky father had brought his lively son.

The two had often played together. That was evident as junior would hike up his jeans (including the pamper which peeked out) as he would grab his daddy's pants leg for an upward climb.

Proud sir would extend his index and little finger to the short person. Little one would gleefully grab and chuckle as he was hoisted into the air. It was fun to observers who were as pleased with father as well as son.

Only one of the two could speak. How could one let folks know how smart a son one had? Simple! Just give directions so that it could be clear how well the small boy could understand English.

"Pick up your hat." "Bring me the truck." "Pull up your pants." "Give me your jacket."

These were signals to son and to all. My boy is smart. He's going to be a winner.

Since father - son love is one of our big lacks, I say again. Cheers for proud fathers!

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COPE '83 — 2 analyses

7 key questions

"Blacks spend 120 billion dollars a year. But every dollar that wakes up in the black community in the morning, goes to bed at night in the white community."

"If we continue to stay from the polls on election day, we won't need the Ku Klux Klan to do us in. We'll do it ourselves."

"Remember that while you are here planning and strategizing to win your political freedom, there are others planning and strategizing just as hard to make sure you don't."

MAYOR RICHARD G. HATCHER GARY, IND.

COMMENTARY
By George W. Collins

Richard G. Hatcher is a pioneer black politician. When he became the mayor of Gary, Ind., more than 10 years ago, it was a dramatic demonstration of what black voters can achieve if they would but unify.

Appropriately Mayor Hatcher was keynote speaker November 24, when black Baltimoreans went public with their crusade to win control over their own political destiny.

The occasion was a coming out party for COPE '83 - Committee for Political Equality. COPE '83 is made up of an ad hoc group of citizens from all sides of the black political spectrum in Baltimore.

It is dedicated to the proposition that in matters political, black Baltimoreans will be "free in '83."

Closer examination of the members of the steering committee of COPE '83 — supporters contributed and pledged more than $70,000 toward the ultimate goal of a half million dollars — impressed even the most hardened cynic.

Honesty compels me to admit that when you have seen as many promising political movements in Baltimore die aborning, as I have over the past quarter century, cynicism comes easily.

Based on evidence at hand, however, the judgment here is that COPE '83 should be given a fair chance to succeed.

The non - partisan nature of the sponsors, the disavowal of the steering committee that any hidden agendas are involved; plus the vocal and financial support of many leaders of their own political factions have earned COPE '83 that chance.

Thus it would be ideal if this examination could end here and we all steal silently away into the night of euphoria.

That, however, would be the ultimate act of a fool.

Harsh reality and bitter lessons of the past demand that we look at some of the potential pitfalls that could wreck the dream of COPE '83 and the dreams of thousands of black citizens riding on it.

In the days since the political crusade made its debut, many people — people who are needed to help the effort succeed — have voiced fear, apprehension, and doubt over the true aims of COPE '83.

While I don't personally share these apprehensions, fears, and doubts, journalistic integrity demands they be reported.

Many of the above misgivings already voiced by those who are dedicated to the success of COPE '83 are inherent in the following questions:

1. **Is COPE '83 obligated to any particular political leader?**

2. **What political faction will dominate the decisions and actions of COPE '83?**

3. **Have decisions on who will seek what state office in 1982 and what city office in 1983?**

4. **Since many of those deeply involved in the formation of COPE '83 are ranking members of the current city administration, do they have hidden agendas?**

5. **Who will control the money?**

6. **For what purposes will it be spent?**

7. **Is COPE '83 in fact a people movement, or is it merely a rip - off designed to benefit the chosen few?**

These are but a few of the issues that leaders of COPE '83 must address now, openly and honestly.

Further, COPE '83 leaders must say, in no uncertain terms, exactly where leaders of the various political factions will fit in the scheme of things.

Specifically to such leaders as Congressman Parren J. Mitchell, who has already declared his allegiance; Sen. Clarence M. Mitchell; City Councilman Michael B. Mfume, Sen. Verda F. Welcome, Del. Troy Brailey;

Chief. And the questions arise with COPE '83, who sets in these capacities? Where will the buck stop? Who will do the disciplining? Who shall demand accountability? (Not the little Red Hen, for Heaven's sake!

Mention was made at the dinner about how few of us were on boards and commissions. How well do some of us know. For just a few years ago, when Thomas D'Alesandro III was a mayor, were we able to wrest board memberships in any small number with the force of our civil rights tactics.

Presently, Mayor William D. Schaefer will not abide any pressures from the black community and the more we press the more recalcitrant, perverse, and vindictive he becomes. And we have no redress of our grievances short of court action.

But even with these few memberships that we do have on boards of regents, school commissioners, library, Maryland Institute, the museum, wherever we are members, to whom are these members accountable? To whom do they report? How do we ever know when actions are being taken against the best intgrest of the black community? This paper could start such a dialogue.

It would be a crying shame that if we set up the mechanism for COPE '83, without the safeguards of self - discipline; of self - evaluation; of accountability; we shall have no more in the way of enlightened black leadership than we do now.

Moreover, there are those of us who have a healthy suspicion of any large group that attempts to do our planning for us. There is fear of hidden agendas, which comes naturally from all past experiences. History is prologue.

By Elizabeth M. Oliver
City Editor

DO YOU NEED CHRISTMAS $$$$

HERE IS QUICK CASH for Christmas. Anyone can do it. Collect aluminum and get yourself some extra dollars.

This year, Reynolds paid customers nationwide nearly $56 million for more than 168 million pounds of aluminum, including 3.5 billion cans. The Reynolds Metals Company subsidiary bought nearly 2.3 million pounds of aluminum from Maryland customers.

In the Baltimore area, Reynolds pays 23 cents a pound for all aluminum beverage cans and other clean household aluminum products.

IN ADDITION to all - aluminum beverage cans, Reynolds buys aluminum pie plates, frozen food and dinner trays, as well as dip, pudding, and meat containers.

Other recyclable aluminum products include siding, gutters, storm door and window frames, and lawn furniture tubing.

These items should be clean with no other material attached, cut into three foot lengths, and bundled separately from any cans you might be recycling.

Aluminum castings, including pots and pans, power lawn mower housings and barbecue grills are also good.

The only true way to tell if your metal is aluminum is with a magnet — a magnet will not stick to aluminum.

For information, call toll - free (800) 228 - 2525.

Bring aluminum to:

Memorial Stadium, Gate W - 8, 1000 E. 33rd St.
Baltimore,
Tuesday thru Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon
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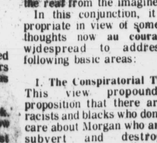
A NEW DAY BEGUN



Morgan State University continues to lumber along in a state of indecision, disarray and dissension.

Morgan's Board of Regents' decision on Nov. 26 is to reaffirm its support of the embattled and flawed presidency of Dr. Andrew Billingsley simply compounds what is fast becoming an intolerable and illogical situation.

The Board of Regents reaffirmation of support for Dr. Billingsley stripped of its' euphemistical and grandiloquent language represents, in essence, given the solid phalanx of opposition by vital and necessary constituent groups (viz, faculty, students, classified staff, etc.) to the continuance of Dr. Billingsley as president, a last ditch effort to shore up and sustain a beleaguered president Bereft of broad-based constituent support.

The Board of Regents must know the mission and academic-intellectual development and growth of Morgan cannot and will not take in an environment in which crucial and pivotal constituent groups such as students, faculty, staff alumni and concerned patrons lack trust and confidence in the institutional head.

The Board of Regents cannot maintain a president in office by any other means that but must work assiduously through its chief executive office with other constituent groups in order to effectuate in theury and practice an environment which fosters, encourage and supports shared leadership and decision-making.

The time has come to talk sense to all Marylanders, black and white, who care genuinely about a vibrant, progressive and strong Morgan.

It seems clear given the current morass, obfuscation and pontification concerning Morgan to separate the wheat from the chaff, the real from the imagined.

In this conjunction, it is appropriate in view of some of the thoughts now au courant and widespread to address the following basic areas:

1. **The Conspiratorial Theory.** This view propounds the proposition that there are white racists and blacks who don't really care about Morgan who are out to subvert and destroy the presidency of Dr. Billingsley.

In terms of the first point, white racism flourishes in Maryland and across the nation and, in large measure, contributed to the establishment of Morgan in 1867 as a "separate and unequal" institution of higher education.

In regard to the second point relative to blacks seeking to prevent Dr. Billingsley from succeeding, this is arrant nonsense.

To be sure, there are "turf battles" at Morgan, but turf or in-house conflicts are not peculiar to Morgan, but are endemic to over 3,500 United States universities and colleges. Rational and thoughtful blacks and whites understand the need for Morgan and the special place it has for Maryland and the nation.

2. **Inadequate funding.** No sensible and logical person questions the fact that Morgan needs and should have more money. However, in the context of the current discussions and activities, a critical question looms as highly important: **HOW HAS MORGAN'S ADMINISTRATION MADE USE OF THE FISCAL AND RESOURCES MADE AVAILABLE TO IT?**

Then too, what use has been made of the Morgan State Foundation funds?

It is abundantly clear that a convincing, lucid and compelling case cannot be made for additional funding until it is demonstrated that the Morgan administration has been an effective steward of the funds, notwithstanding the sufficiency of the funding, entrusted to its care in the past.

This case must be made early next year in Annapolis to the members of the Maryland General Assembly's Joint Budget and Audit Committee.

The committee will not be moved by pious and pontificial homilies and self-serving shibboleths, but by hard and observable data. It should be noted that Baltimore is well-served in having Del. John Douglass in a signficant leadership role on the committee.

3. **The Governance of Morgan** — The scholarship, acumen and profound personal commitment of President Billingsley, since his arrival in 1975, are not germane issues in the mammoth crises confronting Morgan, but the quality of his governance is a clear and present reality.

Any objective and fair review and analysis of Dr. Billingsley's performance after five years as president, would indicate a failure on his part to coalesce the disparate constituent group (viz., faculty, staff, students, alumni, community patrons, etc.) to set in place a clear and systematic institutional mission, to provide confidence and assurance that human and monetary resources were being utilized in an optimum manner or efficaciously and, above all, to establish a university climate predicated on trust and collegiality so necessary for high academic intellectual achievement and growth and a spirit of partnership, openness and amity.

The evaluators, Drs. Samuel M. Nabrit, Luna I. Mishoe and Frederick W. Ness, who prepared the "Report to the Board (i.e., Board of Regents) evaluation - Committee, Morgan State University" on May 2, 1980, after acknowledging the mea culpas - (i.e., shortcomings) of Dr. Billingsley asserted:

"In any case it seems essential to us that the President be provided with a full-time administrative consultant for a period of one to two years, possibly with the title of Executive Vice President.

This individual would have to come from the outside, preferably a retired university president or vice president, someone with a proven public record.

"His role would be to assist the President in realizing the expectations of the Board, to serve as his communications link with the various sectors of the campus community, and to function as confidant and mentor.

"Finally, we believe the President could benefit from attending (at University expense) one or more of the better short-term training programs for college and university executives provided by certain universities and national educational associations.

"These are by no-means limited in their focus to new presidents but have been found beneficial to seasoned administrators who seek reinforcement or redirection.

(Report to the Board Evaluation Committee, MSU, p. 26).

The urgent needs and challenges facing Morgan will not permit a president-in-training, but requires vigorous, decisive and imaginative leadership now.

Morgan's Board of Regents, as a collective body, has been well-intentioned, appears to lack the decisiveness, sense of awareness, foresight and probity necessary to restore confidence and stability to Morgan.

Keener and more careful thought needs to be given to future appointments by Governor Harry Hughes to the Board of Regents.

In summary, Morgan's Board of Regents must give less attention to residential salvation, but must, cognizant of the overwhelming needs, make as its chief and overriding aim the salvation of Morgan State University.

The voluntary resignation of President Billingsley or his termination by the Board of Regents represents a grim and melancholy but necessary step in unifying and rebuilding a vital and precious community and state resource — Morgan State University.

Now is the time to begin for the sake of present and future Morgan "Bears" who desire a challenging, high quality and fulfilling education in a stable, enriching and satisfying learning environment.

FOR ALL WE KNOW

December 25 & 26
Price: 23 cents per pound

K - Mart Shopping Center
220 North Point Blvd.
Baltimore,
Tuesday thru Saturday from 1: to 4:30 p.m.
Closed November 27 & 28.
December 25 & 26
Price: 23 cents per pound

NORMAN HILL of the Randolph Institute summaries the J. P. Stevens labor victory which is the most significant labor victory of our times.

IT IS SIGNIFICANT to reprint this historic victory specifically for its implications for black workers and for the South.

BY NORMAN HILL

One of the nation's most protracted and bitter labor struggles ended in late October when J. P. Stevens & Co. agreed to sign a labor contract with the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU).

THE CONTRACT covers 10 plants in the South and is applicable also to the 70 other Stevens textile plants should ACTWU win representation elections there.

The Stevens victory was achieved at tremendous financial cost to the Clothing and Textile Workers and to the labor movement as a whole.

The VICTORY was well worth the expense and sacrifice. Moreover, the tactics which ACTWU applied are of great significance because they point the way for further victories for organized labor in the South.

ACTWU used a number of untraditional tactics in its efforts to defeat J. P. Stevens.

These included pressure upon Stevens board members to resign, consumer boycotts against the company's products, pressure on business partners of the textile giant, demonstrations, and shareholders' proxy fights.

What is of particular significance, in the ACTWU is the broad range of support which was given to the Stevens boycott. Thousands of union, religious, political civil rights and campus groups were enlisted in the effort.

THE NETWORK of support played a critical role in exerting sufficient pressure on the Stevens company. Clearly, such networks can be mobilized in future organizing struggles.

FOR BLACK WORKERS, in particular, the Stevens victory is a watershed.

The South has provided an inhospitable environment for union organizing.

Blacks who derive substantial benefits as a consequence of belonging to unions in the North and Midwest have to date been largely deprived of similar benefits in the South.

THE STEVENS victory, a victory in a battle waged in the South and against one of the most militantly anti - union corporations in America, is an indication that the South can be won for labor.

THE STEVENS CONTRACT also provides clear evidence of the benefits of union membership for blacks and all workers.

It includes provisions regulating workloads, allows union officers to participate in formulating in - plant safety and health policies, bars discrimination on the basis of race, sex, age, or religion, and protects workers from arbitrary management decisions.

From a financial point of view, the contract has much to commend it.

It provides for increases in the neighborhood of 8.5 percent and in the case of the Roanoke Stevens plant, allows for retroactive pay which totals over $1,000 per worker.

THE SIGNIFICANCE of the Stevens victory, however, is not confined to the tangible benefits it has produced for workers. Of equal importance is the fact that the ACTWU's success will trigger a major organizing effort in the South.

For nearly two decades, J. P. Stevens stubbornness was a symbol of the difficulties in organizing the South.

Now that the myth of Stevens invincibility has been demolished organized labor will be more bold in its efforts to achieve major gains in this region.

A continuing maelstrom

battles" at Morgan, but turf or in-house conflicts are not peculiar to Morgan, but are endemic to over 3,500 United States universities and colleges. Rational and thoughtful blacks and whites understand the need for Morgan and the special place it has for Maryland and the nation.

2. **Inadequate funding.** No sensible and logical person questions the fact that Morgan needs and should have more money. However, in the context of the current discussions and activities, a critical question looms as highly important: **HOW HAS MORGAN'S ADMINISTRATION MADE USE OF THE FISCAL AND RESOURCES MADE AVAILABLE TO IT?**

Then too, what use has been made of the Morgan State Foundation funds?

It is abundantly clear that a convincing, lucid and compelling case cannot be made for additional funding until it is demonstrated that the Morgan administration has been an effective steward of the funds, notwithstanding the sufficiency of the funding, entrusted to its care in the past.

This case must be made early next year in Annapolis to the members of the Maryland General Assembly's Joint Budget and Audit Committee.

The committee will not be moved by pious and pontificial homilies and self-serving shibboleths, but by hard and observable data. It should be noted that Baltimore is well-served in having Del. John Douglass in a signficant leadership role on the committee.

3. **The Governance of Morgan** — The scholarship, acumen and profound personal commitment of President Billingsley, since his arrival in 1975, are not germane issues in the mammoth crises confronting Morgan, but the quality of his governance is a clear and present reality.

Any objective and fair review and analysis of Dr. Billingsley's performance after five years as president, would indicate a failure on his part to coalesce the disparate constituent group (viz., faculty, staff, students, alumni, community patrons, etc.) to set in place a clear and systematic institutional mission, to provide confidence and assurance that human and monetary resources were being utilized in an optimum manner or efficaciously and, above all, to establish a university climate predicated on trust and collegiality so necessary for high academic intellectual achievement and growth and a spirit of partnership, openness and amity.

The evaluators, Drs. Samuel M. Nabrit, Luna I. Mishoe and Frederick W. Ness, who prepared the "Report to the Board (i.e., Board of Regents) evaluation - Committee, Morgan State University" on May 2, 1980, after acknowledging the mea culpas - (i.e., shortcomings) of Dr. Billingsley asserted:

"In any case it seems essential to us that the President be provided with a full-time administrative consultant for a period of one to two years, possibly with the title of Executive Vice President.

This individual would have to come from the outside, preferably a retired university president or vice president, someone with a proven public record.

"His role would be to assist the President in realizing the expectations of the Board, to serve as his communications link with the various sectors of the campus community, and to function as confidant and mentor.

"Finally, we believe the President could benefit from attending (at University expense) one or more of the better short-term training programs for college and university executives provided by certain universities and national educational associations.

"These are by no-means limited in their focus to new presidents but have been found beneficial to seasoned administrators who seek reinforcement or redirection.

(Report to the Board Evaluation Committee, MSU, p. 26).

The urgent needs and challenges facing Morgan will not permit a president-in-training, but requires vigorous, decisive and imaginative leadership now.

Morgan's Board of Regents, as a collective body, has been well-intentioned, appears to lack the decisiveness, sense of awareness, foresight and probity necessary to restore confidence and stability to Morgan.

Keener and more careful thought needs to be given to future appointments by Governor Harry Hughes to the Board of Regents.

In summary, Morgan's Board of Regents must give less attention to residential salvation, but must, cognizant of the overwhelming needs, make as its chief and overriding aim the salvation of Morgan State University.

The voluntary resignation of President Billingsley or his termination by the Board of Regents represents a grim and melancholy but necessary step in unifying and rebuilding a vital and precious community and state resource — Morgan State University.

Now is the time to begin for the sake of present and future Morgan "Bears" who desire a challenging, high quality and fulfilling education in a stable, enriching and satisfying learning environment.

LETTERS:

Letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of this newspaper.

Critical of Banks' 'alliance'

Dear AFRO:

Dr. Banks' "Blacks and Jews: The Necessity of Alliance" (AFRO Nov. 20, 1980) is an uncanny example of convoluted logic. He establishes that "Jew" is a reference to a religious group instead of a racial group, but proceeds to treat "Jews" as a racial entity, giving mere lip service to the antiquity of the Africans who embrace Judaism, which is an African religion.

He rambled desperately, lugubriously into a tirade about the injustices of those 20th century Jewish Europeans who were subjected to Hitler's liquidation plan, disregarding the millions of other people in Germany who were subjected to the same plan.

Obviously, the educator's parallelisms (the alleged similarities between African-Americans and HIS Jews) are those of expediency since he neglects to even casually mention the "ignominy and hardship" of other German people.

Banks is an ardent supporter of the Holocaust curriculum in the Baltimore City Public School system. Periodically, he initiates write-a-thons, poem-a-longs and speak-a-thons to solicit support for this contested yet rapidly implemented ethnic study course.

Sardonic reference intended, Dr. Banks would smart to know that he is selling a mentality that already has been purchased by Americans, most ironically, African-Americans, and purchased without examining the bill of sale. Contrary to Dr. Banks' liturgical-like article, Jewish caucasians do not seek or need an alliance with African Americans. What have the latter to offer that the affected Caucasians do not have or can not get? Relatively little that would create a balanced alliance. Instead, the latter offers pretenders to the roles of spoke-people who waste time giving pre-eminence to the desires, values and exaggeratedly usurped importance of Caucasians.

The Nestle boycott

Dear AFRO:

I would like to clarify some basic points about the Nestle Boycott.

The boycott of all Nestle products is directed at the corporation to stop its promotion and marketing of artificial infant formula, specifically, to stop the use of free samples that encourage the peoples of Asia and Africa to use the formula. The promotion and marketing of artificial infant formula is unnecessary and unsafe.

The supporters of the Nestle Boycott do not question the quality of nor the need for the product. The problem is the subtle inducement of mothers to become needless consumers.

The consumer boycott includes all the products of the Nestle Corporation and its subsidiaries. This includes the Rusty Scupper Restaurant owned and operated by the Borel Company, which is owned by the Stouffers Corporation of the Nestle firm in Vivey, Switzerland.

The members of Baltimore Clergy and Laity Concerned (CALC) ask the support of all concerned to join in the effort to bring about corporate responsibility and to help ameliorate the severe problems of malnutrition

Supports rent control

Dear AFRO:

I am writing you in hopes that this will help bring about some positive action in your fight FOR Rent Control.

I am presently living in Baltimore County, but prior to moving I lived at 2228 Linden Ave. on the third floor in Baltimore City. I was attending college at the time, and the rent was $120 a month. So I had to live with the less than desirable conditions listed below:

1) I had to provide my own refrigerator and stove.
2) In three years, the apartment had not been painted. I paid $290 to have the apartment painted shortly before I moved.
3) The entire roof leaked when it rained.
4) There was no heat in the winter.
5) If someone in another apartment was using the water, I was unable to use it at the same time.
6) The entire building was roach and mice infested.
7) There were no locks on the windows and inadequate locks on the doors. Most of the time the front door was unlocked and open.

The thing that makes me sad is that the slumlord raised the rent to $160 and didn't even hint that he would make improvements. He is now using the roach-infested stove and refrigerator I left behind.

I wish you success.

Alta Curtis