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Force NOT Solution

Physical force and threats will not end discrimination in State College barber shops. The necessity for equal treatment of all persons, regardless of color cannot be jammed down the throats of those unenlightened and backward bigots who are unacquainted with the true meaning of democracy.

The force of public opinion, developed by unceasing education, and expressed in an orderly manner, can, however, eradicate the blight of racial discrimination in any community whose citizenry sincerely desires to promote the inevitable arrival of the "Brotherhood of Man."

While not necessarily condoning every aspect of the CORE program, or its seemingly bumbling progress to a definitely worthy goal, we firmly oppose the so-called "direct-action" method of barber shop picket lines.

Such a program, customarily the tool of militant minorities, would only antagonize barbers, and increase their resistance to removal of racial barriers. What we must cultivate is barber cooperation, not opposition.

As for CORE's proposed non-discriminatory shop, it may be the necessary, last-resort proof to the barbers that the students of this progressive institution of higher learning, and the citizens of this enlightened borough have had enough of racial injustice.

Thus the shop would be but an opening wedge, an example and an encouragement to the existing shops to do likewise. When all the other barbers had followed suit, and showed conclusive evidence that they would continue to do so, the CORE shop, with its mission accomplished, would conceivably cease operations.

Yet if something went wrong; if the shop did not receive adequate support, and threatened to disintegrate into a Jim Crow shop, the Collegian editor, and, we hope, CORE itself, would be quick to demand its abandonment. It cannot be stressed too strongly that segregation is no solution.

There are other possible avenues of attack, which CORE may or may not have considered. One is a true boycott, which is distinctly different from the picket line tactics advocated by Mr. Cover. Literally, the word means a simple refusal to get a haircut in any barbershop that practices discrimination, as a quiet means of dramatizing the fact that our sympathies are on the side of justice and complete democracy.

Then there is law, which may be called the voice of the majority, with appropriate safeguards for the welfare of minorities.

We feel that opinion in Pennsylvania, especially in State College, is sufficiently enlightened to rectify this injustice by legislation.

For instance, the Penal Code of Pennsylvania (passed in 1939) already makes it unlawful to discriminate on account of race, creed or color, with respect to public accommodations.

Unfortunately, barber shops were omitted in the list of agencies, which does include restaurants, hotels, theaters and universities.

An amendment to the code appears to be necessary, and should not prove too insurmountable a task. CORE is overlooking a good opportunity if it fails to inaugurate a movement to correct this glaring omission.

In the meanwhile, a borough ordinance prohibiting discriminatory practices in local barber shops should require a little less time, and should prove even less difficult to obtain.

We have sufficient faith in the integrity of barbers to believe that most of them would abide by the legally-expressed will of the majority.

At the Movies
CATHAUM—The Three Musketeers
STATE—Red River
NITTANY—Date With Judy

'Thanks!'



BURCK © 1948 GEORGE LUN-YING

In the Land of Jim Crow

By Ray Sprigle

Ray Sprigle, Pulitzer prize-winning reporter and staff member of "The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette," recently disguised himself as a Negro and for four weeks "lived black" in the South among his fellow Americans. This is the tenth of a series of twelve articles in which he presents his findings. Mr. Sprigle has changed the names of persons and places in some instances to protect those involved.

For three hot and dusty weeks and 3,000 hot and dusty miles I've been looking forward to Brunswick and Savannah; the broad white beaches of the Georgia coast and a couple days of ocean swimming.

All right—here are Savannah and Brunswick. Here are the broad white beaches. Here is the wide blue Atlantic Ocean. But there'll be no sea bathing for me. I've dragged those swim trunks all these miles for nothing.

And why? Because this is a strictly Jim Crow ocean and I'm black.

Along all the hundred miles of beautiful islands and shore of beautiful island and shore beaches, there's not a single foot where a Negro can stick a toe into salt water. North and South Carolina and Florida have public and private beaches reserved for us black people. Not Georgia. Georgia is going to keep her share of the Atlantic pure and undefiled—and lily white.

Standard Fine Is \$50
And if you're black and you think that either I or Georgia is fooling about this thing—Just try

dunking yourself along Georgia's ocean strand. The resulting fine is standard—\$50 and costs. For trespass—no less. To get to the ocean you must cross some one's land. That's trespass. And—that's \$50 and costs.

Last time anybody tried going to the mat with the sovereign State of Georgia on this issue was a couple of years ago when three young colored girls decided they'd strike a blow for the freedom of the seas. Rena Atkins, Winsor Roberts and Inez Walker, of Brunswick, donned bathing suits, hired a cab and went to a deserted section of the Glynn County water-front.

They never even got their feet wet. A county policeman herded them back into their cab, directed the driver to take them to the police station and locked them up. They were in cells all day until a professional bondsman seeking a fee notified friends and put up bail. Next morning they were each fined \$50 and costs. Since then the Atlantic (around here at least) has been strictly white. (Continued on page eight)

The Safety Valve

Letters to the editor must be signed for inclusion in the Safety Valve, although names will be withheld on request. Telephone numbers and addresses must be included to facilitate verification of authenticity of signatures. Letters exceeding 200 words in length may be cut when required by space limitations.

Disappointed

TO THE EDITOR: During Homecoming Weekend, my wife and I, like many other alumni, visited Penn State. We both were very active in the Council of Racial Equality while undergraduates and we were indeed disappointed to see to what a level it had fallen. Time and again its members have cried out that Jim Crow in State College barbershops must be eradicated "quietly," that a boycott or similar action is "radical" and unheard of.

What solution have they proposed? The establishment of a barbershop where Negroes can get their hair cut. Does this eliminate segregation and discrimination? Obviously not! They still can't get their hair cut where they want to. It's still segregation and it's still discrimination.

The lie must be nailed! This CORE proposal must be exposed for what it is—nothing but a weak-kneed substitute for real action. The Negro students want no more of the CORE brand of second class citizenship than any other brand of discrimination. If this group only had faith in the common sense of the student body, which it is supposedly leading to better racial understanding, it might realize its folly and bring to bear upon the local hair clippers the mighty weight of public opinion.

How to do this? Bring the problem out in the open by publicity of the most effective type. Organize the students for vigorous action against those who practice Jim Crow. Only by bringing the student body into the actual solution of the problem can they be educated to the problem itself as CORE claims it desires to do. How the students will learn anything about racial problems and their solutions through CORE's present policy of the quiet extension of their own brand of Jim Crow is very difficult to see. The only real solution to this problem today is through a vigorous boycott.

There are a few, if any, students who would cross an anti-Jim Crow picket line. CORE has sold 1,800 tickets to students for use in their proposed barbershop and it is certain that none of these people would break such a boycott. I am convinced, as are many others, that a vigorous and determined boycott would receive equally vigorous and determined student support. Not only would it end discrimination in the local barbershops but it would also be of tremendous educational value for the entire community.

A boycott cannot be recommended too strongly. This is one facet of an immense problem which must be solved. Our Alma Mater has dirty linen to be washed before she can become the "Better Penn State" we all desire.

Richard E. Cover, '47

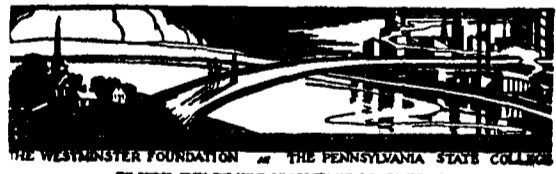
* See editorial in first column.

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STUDENT DEPARTMENT—SUNDAY, 9:30 A.M.
Two Courses: "Protestantism," "The Gospel of Mark"

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
Morning Church Service—10:45

WESTMINSTER FOUNDATION DEPUTATION
Presbyterian Church—7:30 P.M.

WESTMINSTER FELLOWSHIP—8:20 P.M.
Hymn-Sing and Devotional Service
Speaker: Dr. F. F. Lininger, recently returned from China with the F.A.O. of the United Nations

Fellowship: "No man can live this religious life alone. He must have the fellowship of others who are trying to live in this way. This is so because the human personality above all things is a social entity."
—Dr. Henry N. Wieman.



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