

NEWSLETTER

Raleigh, North Carolina

Volume 1, Number 1

June 21, 1963

Published by the Citizens Coordinating Committee of Raleigh

We call to your attention a statement issued by the Raleigh Bi-Racial Committee to the news media June 20, 1963. The statement, quoted in part, reads as follows:

"Mayor W. G. Enloe was responsible for the appointment of a 15-man bi-racial committee approximately five weeks ago. This bi-racial committee has met during the past five weeks in a capacity of liaison and communications for the community of Raleigh.

"Many of Raleigh's businesses have operated on a desegregated basis for the past months and several for the past few weeks. Now, a large number of additional businesses on a city-wide basis have started desegregation on a gradual basis. These include significant leading businesses that serve the public in restaurants, motels, and hotels, indoor amusements, and recreation facilities.

"Also, a number of employment opportunities are available in general business, industry, city and state government without regard to race or color. The responsibility of carrying out this gradual desegregation is being handled by a mechanics committee set up by Raleigh Negro leaders representing their Coordinating Committee and other Negro organizations.

"The Negro citizens have been given an opportunity of entering these establishments and, at the same time, assume heavy responsibility to display their local leadership in carrying this desegregation out with discretion, moderation and without any further demonstrations in Raleigh."

It is our candid opinion that this is a definite "Break Through" in the area of human relations for all citizens of Raleigh. We believe that this is the beginning of full and equal opportunities for first class citizenship for all citizens. These business firms should be commended for this forward step. We assure them of our whole-hearted support.

The responsibility of carrying out this operation is being handled by a sub-committee of the Coordinating Committee, called the Mechanics Committee. This committee consists of the following persons: Mrs. Bertha Edwards, Mrs. Virginia Newell, Miss Vivian Irving, Dr. P. R. Robinson, Rev. C. W. Ward, Miss Carolyn Sanders, Mrs. Harveleigh White, Dr. James A. Boyer, Dr. Charles Lyons, Jr., Mr. J. J. Sanson, Father Arthur Calloway, Mr. Charles Earle, Rev. John W. Fleming, Mrs. Millie Veasey, Mr. Ralph Campbell, and Dr. Grady D. Davis.

In our present situation regarding this transition, we should avoid all intentional injury in thought, word and deed. Thus, we should not harbor anger, hatred, ill-will, suspicion, vindictiveness, or other similar feelings. As regards speech, we should avoid all abusive, insulting, haughty, or needlessly offensive language. In our behavior and manner, we should be courteous, friendly, tolerant, dignified, and cooperative. In our dress and appearance, we should be clean and neat.

The fact that we have achieved this measure of success is no reason for us to let down, become complacent, and rest on our laurels. Let us not sit back and gloat and boast of having won a "great victory." To do so would be a grave error. Let us, rather keep ever before us the principle of spiritual kinship with others and endeavor always to develop within ourselves and others a high level of moral integrity and a sense of equity and justice. Let us, moreover, continue to work unceasingly, in unity, for the achievement of a completely free and open society for all of our people.

All persons desiring jobs or information concerning jobs, please contact Dr. Charles Lyons' office at the North Carolina Teachers Association, 125 East Hargett Street, Raleigh, N. C. Phone 832-3959. Application blanks are available there.

There will be a MASS MEETING Thursday night, June 27, 1963 at 8:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, corner of Wilmington and Morgan streets. ALL CITIZENS ARE URGED TO ATTEND.