

SHOP-TALK

Washington Interracial Workshop
1734 F Street, N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

February 12, 1952

BROTHERHOOD MONTH ISSUE



WHAT DOES BROTHERHOOD MEAN TO YOU?

Most of us in the Workshop, and those who are interested in our ideals, have a fairly concrete idea of what we mean when we talk of BROTHERHOOD. We work at it regularly, most of us try to live it in our daily lives, and we all believe in it sincerely. BROTHERHOOD MONTH, however, provides a time for all of us to re-assess our lives to find out what it is that we can do to spread the meaning and practice of Brotherhood among our fellow citizens.

The BROTHERHOOD PLEDGE, which is circulated by FOR and CORE, gives all of us an opportunity to make this assessment of our lives and pledge ourselves to do more than we have found time to do in the past.

Now is the time for all of us to act resolutely. Sign this pledge and send it in. Then all of us will be able to say, to ourselves and to the world, "I PLEDGE BROTHERHOOD."

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GEORGETOWN THEATER BROTHERHOOD PROJECT

Because of conflicting reports about the policy of the Georgetown Theater, the Workshop made a test late in January. Connie Perry, Lynn Kirk and John Robertson made the test.

When John tried to purchase the tickets he was informed he could not be sold a ticket, but that a gentleman in the lobby would like to talk to the group.

The man claimed to be the owner, stated that Negroes are not now admitted, but that a change of policy was being considered. He seemed disposed to open his theater, but expressed fear of losing business.

We pointed out the number of theaters which do admit all people, apparently without loss of business, and urged him to do likewise. We offered our help in making such a change possible, and asked for further conferences.

Because the owner indicated several organizations and individuals had writ-

CORE PROTESTS AMOS 'N' ANDY STEROTYPES

New York CORE's Brotherhood Month campaign has spread across the country. In response to their request, the Workshop planned to participate in simultaneous poster walks at the Warner Building, CBS headquarters, on Thursday, February 7, during the Amos 'n' Andy TV show. Such poster walks were planned for Chicago, New York and Washington.

* The Workshop and several other organizations in Washington have written protests to CBS and to Blatz Beer Company, sponsors of the show. As a result of these letters, and after refusing an appointment to New York CORE for a month, CBS called CORE representatives and requested an immediate conference on the day when the demonstrations were to have taken place.

As Workshopppers were gathering to go on the poster walk we received a call from New York CORE telling us of their conference with CBS officials and urging a postponement of the demonstration pending further conferences with CBS and the advertising agencies. This was done.

It is felt that the visual-audio medium of TV has made increasingly easy the depicting of Negroes as stupid clowns, whereas this half-hour might well be used for programs which better human relations and give dignity to the individual, regardless of his color.

It is felt, too, that Negro actors should have parts for which they have ability, rather than writing stereotyped parts for the players.

Organizations and individuals are urged to write letters to both the network and the sponsors during negotiations.

ten about the policy, the Workshop wrote re-stating its position and again asked for a conference. No reply has yet been received. Several other organizations have written at Workshop request, and others are urged to write the manager, Al Sherman, asking that the policy be changed at the Georgetown.