

FREE PRESS

NEWSLETTER NO. 39

N. F. C. E. P.

May 1, 1965

WHERE SHALL WE ANCHOR

The motto of Carter-Parramore's class of 1965 is a fitting one, for in these turbulent times a man's life is very often guided by events that he has no control over. Like everyone else, there was no one in the class of 1965 who will be able to say with accuracy what he will be doing one year or ten years from now. But this is not to say that a person must throw up their arms in despair and allow themselves to be pushed and stunned about by the opposing forces in life's struggle. Although man cannot plan his life with pinpoint accuracy, he is still the master of his fate, the captain of his soul.

We as human beings must not allow ourselves to submit to the injustices that still abound in our country. It is our duty to join together in the fight to make this a better country to live in. Too many people take the position that as individuals they are not able to make much of a contribution to the struggle for Civil Rights, but they are wrong. Each person actively lined up against the flood of hate and discrimination that has paralyzed our country for so long is a bulwark against it. An Uncle Tom or Nervous Nellie might be quick to tell you that it is best if you look out for yourself and don't worry about others, but this is just a means of covering up their own feeling of guilt for leaving the job to others. We can not expect others to fight for our freedom when we ourselves are too scared or apathetic to do it ourselves. We have made fun of Johnny Watson, Phillip Carter Smith, Betty Jackson, and others, who have been fighting to make Gadsden County a better place to live in in the future. And it is not only they who will reap the reward of their labor but all of us, even those of us who are "just going along for the ride" and have never contributed anything for Freedom. While they went out and tried to determine where they would be in the future by trying to upset segregation and discrimination, we were content to sit back and accept the segregated theaters, restaurants and other public facilities. If not for the members of Quincy CORE and a few others (the adults in CIG) what progress would have been made in Quincy in the past few years? The answer is of course, none, for without pressure by militant Negroes the progress would be only that which the white folks of the County would give at worse pay and the only integration there was came about after dark.

So the question, "Where shall we anchor" is an important one. If we allow ourselves to become interested only in things like money, good looking wives and a job with security, the place we drop our anchor in won't be much better than the one where our fathers and mothers dropped their anchor. If we are daring and push for what we know is due to us we can make sure that although the seas we sail might be stormy at times, once we drop our anchor we will be in a better port than the one we left.

CHATTAHOOCHEE MEETING

There will be a meeting at the Chattahoochee Center, Wednesday, May 5, 1965, to discuss the running of the Center. Everyone is urged to attend the meeting so that they can make their views known. If the Center is to be a success then YOU must come out and support it and work for it.

REGISTER
TO VOTE

Gadsden

Gadsden County Times
Office Mon 9-12 2-5

Congratulations
TO THE
CLASS
OF
1965

LIBERTY
COURT HOUSE
Wednesday 9-12 2-5
A voteless people is
a hopeless people.

**CHATTahoochee CAFE
OWNER REFUSES SERVICE**

Six Negroes who sought service at Chatahoochee's bus station were refused service Friday morning. Mrs. Byrd, manager of the cafe told the six men that unless they went to the backside of the building, they would not be served. This incident happened only two days after a story appeared in most Florida papers quoting Mrs. Byrd as saying that she served anyone who asked for service in her cafe. She had gone on to state that although some Negroes in the past had come to her establishment none of them had ever placed an order. "If they had done," she stated, "they would have been served".

Mrs. Byrd in the past has made several contradictory and in some cases ridiculous statements. She insists that the large cafe is operated solely for the use of her family, but that she would serve people if they gave her sufficient time to prepare the orders.

CORE has filed a complaint with the Justice Department and the Interstate Commerce Commission based upon a recent series of tests by the Chattahoochee Youth Freedom Movement. It is unlikely that Mrs. Byrd's transparent attempt to cover up her discriminatory practices will stand up under an investigation by the ICC or a law suit by CORE.

The Justice Department has shown an interest in the activities which have taken place in Chattahoochee in the past few weeks. Two FBI men questioned Task Force Worker Stu Wochsler about the incidents. They took names of restaurants refusing to serve Negroes and the names and tags numbers of people involved in the incidents which began with the closing of the Gibson Theater several weeks ago. In addition to any Federal action taken CORE is preparing suits against all Chattahoochee violators of the Rights Act of 1964.

BIG CHANGES IN COUNTY

As of May 1, 1965, there will be a major change in the Quincy Department of Public Safety. On that date the Negro policemen will perform their tour of duty in a patrol car rather than on foot as has been the case previously. In addition their beat will no longer be confined to the immediate vicinity of Adams Street as has also been the case up until the present. As far as the Negro policemen being allowed to arrest any lawbreaker regardless of color a question still exists since the City Council has been rather vague in answering the question.

Another big step in the County has been the announced desegregation of the County hospital. The hospital has announced that it will no longer segregate Negroes in the basement of the building. This is in order to conform to the Federal Court ruling that any hospital that receives Federal funds will have them cut off if they follow a discriminatory policy.

COMMENCEMENT BALL

There will be a commencement ball held at the Chattahoochee Community Center. All members and friends of the graduating class of Carter-Parramore are cordially invited to take a first step into life and bid friends farewell in a hop until dawn.

The attire for the occasion will be formal and semi-formal. There will also be refreshments served and sponsored by the members of Quincy CORE. The admission will be forty cents per couple and 20 cents per stag.

The ball will take place at the Chattahoochee Community Center and the proceeds from the event will go to the Chattahoochee Youth Freedom Movement. See you there from 8:30 p.m. until.

GET WELL SOON!

The members of the North Florida Citizenship Education Project and CORE wish to wish Mrs. Mollie Bell Preston, a resident of Chattahoochee, Florida, a speedy recover from her illness. We hope that she will soon be up and around soon. Get well soon!

**Will YOU FILL
UP AT BILL'S?**

**YOUR CAR NEEDS
IT.**

COMMENCEMENT

BALL

Date: SAT. May 8

Time: 8:30 until...?

Admission: 40¢ per couple
20¢ stag

Refreshments
"Dance Till Dawn"