

CORE LEADERS STILL IN JAIL IN BATON ROUGE

Although three months have elapsed since the mass student anti-segregation demonstrations in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, two leaders of the local CORE group are still held in the parish jail here as a consequence of excessive bail.

Ronnie Moore, chairman of Baton Rouge CORE is being held in \$12,500 bail and Weldon Rougeau, vice chairman of Baton Rouge CORE, in \$7,000 bail. The original bail figure for each was \$3,000 but when CORE moved to have it reduced the state changed the charges from "trespassing" to "criminal anarchy" and the bail was boosted accordingly. The charge of "criminal anarchy" is based solely on their membership in CORE, an organization seeking to "subvert" the government of the state. It carries a maximum penalty of 10 years at hard labor.

Also held in the parish jail is Rev. B. Elton Cox, who, following the demonstrations, was sentenced to 21 months imprisonment and a \$5,700 fine on 3 misdemeanor charges. Attempts to get him released on a habeas corpus writ, pending appeal, have proved fruitless.

Three visiting SNCC leaders, Dion Diamond, Charles McDew and Robert Zellner, were later arrested and also charged with "criminal anarchy."

"FREEDOM RIDE" FILM

Last CORElator told about the book, "Freedom Ride," by Jim Peck which then went on sale at the CORE office (\$3.50). Orders have been arriving in substantial number.

This CORElator announces the film, "Freedom Ride," produced by the Social Action Committee of the AME Church. With James Farmer, CORE national director as commentator, the film shows action photos of the highlights of the 1961 Freedom Rides. Copies of the film are now available for showings by school, church, union, civil rights and civic groups. Specific details on terms can be obtained by writing to Marvin Rich, CORE community relations director, at the CORE national office.

CORE-LATOR

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A National Organization with affiliated local groups working to abolish
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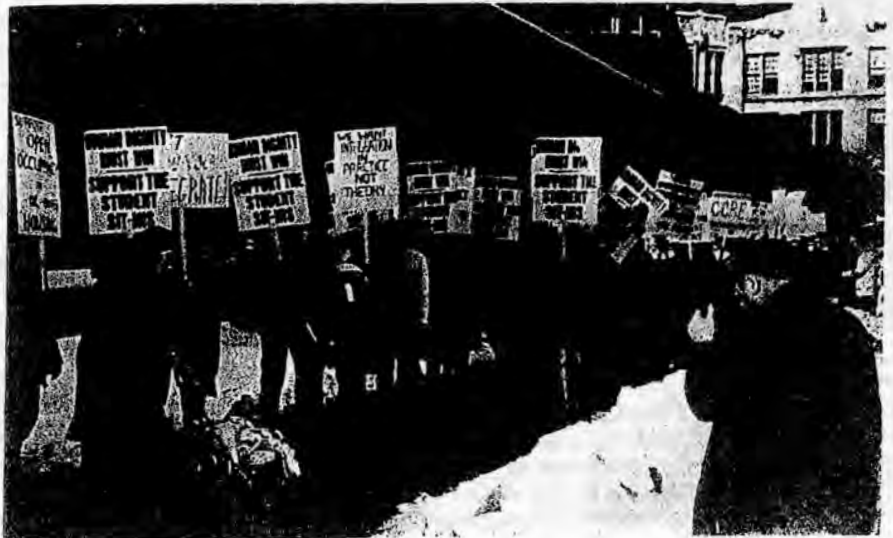
James Farmer, national director

Jim Peck, editor

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These Chicago University Pickets...



... are calling for desegregation of nearby apartment buildings owned by the university. While they picketed, a 2-week-long sit-in was in progress just outside the office of University President George W. Beadle. Also, periodic sit-ins, interrupted by arrests, were taking place at the office of the University Realty Co., managing agent for the university's off-campus apartments.

The 2-week protest action, initiated by the university CORE group, ended February 6 when Dr. Beadle announced new steps to desegregate the university-owned apartments. He appeared unexpectedly at a CORE-sponsored meeting the previous evening which had been called to protest his threat of suspension against any students who might sit-in outside his office after that date. Addressing the meeting, he pledged more aggressive action by the university in desegregating its off-campus apartment houses. He also endorsed establishment of a committee to work on this issue, which would include representatives of CORE and other interested organizations.

A month later, a special faculty committee on housing issued a 40-page report asserting that the CORE action had been "helpful in portraying accurately the loose administrative practices that have been followed and the gap between practice and policy that has resulted." Specifically, the committee recommended increased community involvement on the part of the university. To accomplish this, it suggested creation of a new high office on off-campus real estate, which would be responsible to the university president.

NEW JERSEY SIT-IN

by Norman Hill



This photo shows me in the process of being arrested. The scene is City Hall court chambers in Englewood, New Jersey, where members of Bergen County CORE, my wife Velma and I sat-in on February 1 to protest the *de facto* segregation in public schools. The local administration had not reckoned with the determination and justified impatience of Negroes in Englewood. The restating of platitudes and generalities by the Board of Education failed to meet the demands of an aware and aroused Negro community.

The prevailing school system consists of three practically all-white elementary schools (Cleveland, Quarles and Roosevelt) and one predominantly Negro school (Lincoln). A fifth elementary school (Liberty) has changed from 70% white to 30-35% white in two years. School assignments are made according to residence with pupils being sent to the school nearest their home. Most Negro elementary school teachers are placed in Lincoln School.

The NAACP and other community groups had demanded action by the Board of Education and Mayor Vogt to change the racial imbalance in the school system. In September 1961 three persons were commissioned to initiate a study with recommendations for change to be submitted to the Board of Education. Time passed and pressure mounted. A newly formed Bergen County CORE group joined the effort. The Board of Education finally promised to have the study completed and made public by February 1.

Meanwhile, Paul Zuber, civil rights attorney in the precedent-setting New Rochelle school segregation case, was retained by nine Negro families. On February 1, Zuber and the Negro parents made application for transfers from Lincoln School to Quarles School. That very day every administrative remedy was exhausted, culminating before a standing-room-only Board of Education meeting at which Zuber's motion for transfers was denied. The Board stated that the study had not been completed.

The Board of School Estimate was scheduled to meet immediately after the Board of Education to pass the budget. It was apparent that there would be no budgetary provisions, if needed, for eliminating segregation.

Bergen County CORE had come prepared to sit-in. Barbara Kay, a Freedom Rider who had been jailed in Jackson and a resident of Englewood, announced immediately after the denial of Zuber's motion that the sit-in would start.

TWO NEW "INS"

St. Louis County CORE chalked up two new "ins" recently. A group participated in a two and one-half hour "freeze-in" when, in near zero weather, the owner of Toll House Restaurant in suburban Webster Groves turned off the heat and turned on the air-conditioning.

A few days later four CORE members were "locked-in" the vestibule of the restaurant for two hours. Other customers were also locked in for short periods.

The Toll House is one of the few restaurants in the area which still discriminates. St. Louis CORE has been working on this restaurant since September, 1960.

It lasted through the night with a good portion of the audience participating. Mayor Vogt, who spent the night in his office adjacent to the court chambers, stated that those who were sitting-in had a right to remain in a public building. Shortly after 8:00 a.m. the mayor informed the eleven who had remained in the chambers that we would have to leave to allow the custodians to clean. Although we had voluntarily cleaned the chambers earlier and although the mayor had upheld our right to be there, we were arrested and charged with "disturbing assembly."

Ann Baer and Barbara Kay chose to remain in jail. The rest of us were released on bail the same afternoon. That night hundreds joined a rally to support the sit-in. CORE National Director James Farmer was one of the speakers. A candle-light march to City Hall followed.

A few days later the Englewood United Action Committee, composed of representatives from CORE, NAACP and other community groups, organized a boycott of Englewood. Residents were urged to shop in neighboring communities rather than in a town which supports a segregated school system. The boycott is continuing.

On February 16 Attorneys Paul Zuber and Lawrence Brown won an acquittal for the eleven sit-inners. This was the first victory in the struggle. A break-through on school segregation in Englewood may be even more meaningful than in New Rochelle in view of the substantial support and involvement by the Negro community.

POLICE HARRASS PICKETS, CONDONE VIOLENCE

"The action of local police in fraternizing with segregationist bystanders and failing to even reprimand those who violated our pickets' rights, tended to promote violence."

So charged Beatrice Huguely, chairman of Richmond (Kentucky) CORE after Gerald Cunningham was beaten to the ground and Ronald Berry, a teen-ager was struck while picketing Collin's drugstore. Police made no attempt to stop the assault or to avert a repeat-performance. In fact, one policeman tried to incite a similar incident. Pointing to Julia Lewis of Lexington CORE, who was on the picket line, he encouraged two white bystanders to "get her and beat her up." When this assault failed to materialize, the police chief, himself, ordered her to get off of the street in five minutes.

When one of the segregationists grabbed Mrs. Huguely's sign and destroyed it, police, instead of acting against him, ordered the pickets dispersed. After the picketing, Rev. Daniel Garrison and Austin Sims, who had been CORE observers, were arrested on trumped-up charges of reckless driving. They were later convicted.

The picketing of Collin's and three other drugstores was part of Richmond CORE's lunch counter desegregation campaign. The picket demonstrations will continue and a boycott is being planned.

There have also been brief sit-ins at the four stores. On one occasion, Mrs. Huguely and Mrs. Ida Miller were arrested on breach-of-the-peace charges for refusing to leave Collin's lunch counter.

IN BRIEF

"We have settled beyond question that no state may require racial segregation of interstate or intrastate transportation facilities," the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on February 26. "The question is no longer open. It is foreclosed." The case had been brought by the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund on behalf of three Negro residents of Jackson, Mississippi. An injunction to make Jackson comply, has been filed by the federal government.

A 6-week employment campaign by High Point (North Carolina) CORE has resulted in the hiring of two Negro milk truck drivers and one Negro supermarket cashier.

ALABAMA SIT-IN

by William Pearson

(Editor's note: Pearson, a 20-year-old student at Alabama A & M College, was one of the CORE members arrested in the Huntsville lunch counter campaign. Since this was written, Alabama has obtained an injunction preventing CORE from operating within the state. As this CORElator goes to press, CORE is preparing for a hearing in federal court on a motion to dissolve the injunction.)



The CORE team left Cumberland Presbyterian Church about 11:15 A.M. There were five of us—Marshall Keith, Bertha Burl, Mary Joiner, Leon Felder and myself.

The rest of us got out of the car about two blocks before entering the shopping center called "Heart of Huntsville." Marshall drove on, parked in the center and entered Woolworth's. We went in about ten minutes later. Marshall was sitting alone. We took seats nearby where we could easily see him. Service at the counter continued undisturbed.

Shortly afterward, the waitress brought Marshall's order. He's white: no problem there. Almost at the same time as the waitress turned away, Leon and I moved in.

Marshall shoved the orange juice toward me, the eggs and toast to Leon on the other side. Not knowing what to expect next, we decided to postpone gallantry to some future occasion. Leon and I "dug in."

Up, popped the Woolworth manager—distraught. First he scolded the waitress:

"Why'd you serve him with all of them sitting around him?"

"They weren't there when I brought his order," the waitress replied.

"Take a good look at that stupid face. If you serve him again you're fired!" retorted the manager.

Then he turned on Leon, who was eating his eggs. "More salt and pepper?" He tilted the shakers over the plate, smothering the food with condiments. Leon continued to eat.

Next he turned to Bertha and Mary, quietly looking and enjoying. This quiet-looking Mr. Trimmell—that's his name—began pouring ketchup over the counter in front of the girls. Bertha handed a tissue to Mary. They began to clean up the reddish mess with seeming complacency.

"I've got more ketchup than you've got tissues," warned the manager.

By this time Leon had finished. Insisting on having the final word, Trimmell said: "You ate but you weren't served." With that he snatched the plate and smashed it on the floor. He then did the honors at the cash register. When Marshall gave him a dollar-bill, Trimmell returned him twenty-six pennies in change.

We all sat down for awhile longer. Then the CORE group left.

FAIR HOUSING PICKETS ACROSS THE U. S. . . .

... EAST



... MIDWEST



... WEST



In New Haven, Conn., on March 3, in 7 degree weather, CORE members carrying placards marched through the Negro section (photo at left) to City Hall where they picketed for enactment of a fair housing ordinance. The demonstration was part of a campaign which started last October 6 with a mass sit-out along the curbsides. On February 15, four CORE members were arrested for sitting-in at the offices of New Haven's Republican and Democratic town chairmen.

It was also cold weather (photo at center) when on March 5 the Ann Arbor (Mich.) Fair Housing Association, with which CORE is working, conducted a 4-mile march from Pittsfield Village to City Hall. As a result, the City Council for the first time adopted a resolution supporting open occupancy. Pittsfield Village, the largest apartment development in Ann Arbor, has never accepted a Negro applicant since it first opened after World War II.

In Santa Monica, in southern California (photo at right) pickets were more fortunate as to temperature. Every Saturday afternoon, in front of selected apartment houses which discriminate, Santa Monica CORE conducts a mass picket demonstration. After the demonstrations, teams test other apartment houses in the area. To date 33 buildings have been tested and legal action, as well as picketing has been initiated.

Nearby, in Los Angeles, refusal of a housing subdivision to rent a home to a Negro physicist touched off the first local CORE housing sit-in. Mrs. Bobby Lile, wife of the physicist, was among the 8 Negro and white sit-inners. Asserting that she had a \$100 check in her purse, she said: "We're waiting to make a deposit on the house." Location of the houses is Monterey Highlands, a development located four miles from downtown Los Angeles.

At the other extremity of the U.S., in New York, the first arrest of housing sit-inners occurred. Five members of New York CORE were arrested for sitting-in at the rental office of Ernest Rabine. Using various dodges, Rabine, who is a realtor and Arnold Weinstein, the landlord had refused to rent a 3½-room apartment to the Frank McFeeters, a Negro couple living with their 4-month-old baby in a 1½-room apartment. Protesting the arrest, New York CORE picketed City Hall and Mayor Wagner's residence. The day after the City Hall picketing, the case came up in magistrates court and the five were acquitted.

SHARECROPPERS' INSTRUCTOR JAILED TWICE

Eric Weinberger, who had been training evicted Negro sharecroppers of Haywood County to make tote bags in their homes, was arrested and jailed twice in early March on trumped-up charges.

The first time, he was arrested along with Jeffrey Gordon and held three days in jail without charges. Sheriff S. T. Hunter gave the baseless explanation that the two had been arrested for questioning about a burglary. While in jail, Weinberger was severely beaten by police. He emerged with bruises on his face. A few days later, he was rearrested and accused of

speeding, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct and refusal to obey an officer. All but the first charge was dropped, but on that count, he was fined \$50. He is still in jail.

The home industries project, known as "Tote Bags for Integration," is being undertaken by CORE and the Haywood County Civic & Welfare League to provide a livelihood for Negro sharecroppers evicted for exercising their right to vote. The tote bags, selling at \$9.75 each, are being promoted by civil rights organizations throughout the country. *An order blank is enclosed with this CORElator.*

CHEMICAL MAGAZINE HIRES NEGROES

Chemical Abstracts, a publication of the American Chemical Society, has placed four Negroes on its previously all-white clerical staff since the first of the year. So reported Ben Sheerer, chairman of Columbus CORE.

The hirings followed two months of negotiations which began after a Negro girl had been told there was "nothing available," though several positions for which she was qualified, were open.