

HELP MAKE KRESGE's 100%

Kresge's is the variety chain which has come closest to 100% desegregation of its southern lunch counters. In only 3 southern communities do Kresge lunch counters still refuse to serve Negroes. If Kresge's becomes 100% desegregated, it will be much easier to persuade the other variety chains to follow suit. You can help by writing Harry B. Cunningham, President, S. S. Kresge Co., 2727 Second Avenue, Detroit 32, Michigan. At the same time, the campaign at other variety chain stores must continue. Therefore,

1. If you are in a locality where counters still refuse to serve Negroes, participate in your local sit-ins, boycotts, etc.
2. If you are in a locality where policy has changed, help make integration successful by patronizing the lunch counters and by commending the local managers.
3. If you are outside the south, participate in a picket line or leaflet distribution, and continue the boycott of the national variety chains. CORE, NAACP and other groups continue to picket the variety stores in major cities.

NEW ROCHELLE SCHOOL MARCH

Immediate school desegregation is the aim of a march through the town of New Rochelle, N. Y. on Saturday, May 13. Participants will come not only from New Rochelle but from the entire New York metropolitan area. FOR SPECIFIC DETAILS AS TO TIME, MEETING PLACE, ETC., CALL THE CORE OFFICE—CO 7-0035.

Sponsoring the demonstration is the Northern School Integration Committee for a March on New Rochelle, which includes CORE groups in the New York and northern New Jersey area as well as other organizations. Chairman of the committee is Darwin Bolden, whose article on the New Rochelle school struggle appeared in last November's CORElator. The New Rochelle situation has become symbolic of the struggle for school desegregation outside of the south.

CORE-LATOR

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A National Organization with affiliated local groups working to abolish
racial discrimination by direct nonviolent methods

James Farmer, national director

Jim Peck, editor

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Nonviolence on a New Orleans Picket Line

by Connie Bradford

(Two days after this was written the author—a white girl—was arrested on the same picket line for "obstructing traffic." She is out on \$1000 bail)

On Saturday, April 15, about noon, I was picketing close to the outside edge of the sidewalk in front of McCrory's on Canal Street when a white lady, about 50 years of age, stopped and asked me if I was a member of "that nigger" organization (i.e. CORE). I answered, "Yes ma'am" and continued walking. She followed close beside and at times behind me for about three lengths of the store, shouting questions and accusations at me. I remember her asking me if I knew what I was doing, and if I knew what Japan, China, Russia, and Cuba were doing.

My refusal to answer must have annoyed her, because she began shoving and pushing me. She tried to knock my sign down, but I lifted it up again and tried to keep walking. Then she pushed me against a parked car, kicked me, and hit me around the shoulders and body with her purse and her hands. This time I relinquished my placard. She put it on the roof of the car and before I could regain my balance, she began pushing and hitting me again. All the time she was screaming insults at me.



LATE FLASH

SIX REMAIN JAILED IN NEW ORLEANS

With this issue already at the printers, word reached us that six New Orleans CORE members were arrested for picketing McCrory's and Woolworth's on Canal Street and are jailed-in, having refused bail. They are charged with "obstructing traffic."

Four of them—Julia Aaron, Dave Dennis, Doris Castle and Jerome Smith — were arrested April 17. The other two—Geraldine Conrad and Alice Thompson were arrested two days later.

When she realized she was not making much headway, she took the sign from atop the car and, rushing into the street, she threw it in front of a moving car. The car stopped and the bewildered driver got out. During this time the lady had quickly and prudently removed herself from the scene. I had regained my balance but I was a little dazed and could not decide on a course of action, but my picket mate, Pat Smith, told me to take her sign while she recovered mine. She did so, and we continued picketing. Soon the crowd that had formed to watch the incident dispersed and the traffic cleared.

No one in the crowd had offered assistance to the lady or to us, probably because the action had taken place so quickly. The incident must not have taken over three or four minutes.

I had first picketed only a week before and, although I had been hit

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Stand-In at Kentucky Theater



This is one of the stand-ins conducted nightly by Lexington CORE at the Kentucky Theater. On April 4, 22 stand-inners were arrested. Half of them, including three children of Rev. Lamont Jones, spent the night in jail. The case has not yet been tried.

Two previous cases in which CORE stand-inners were arrested at the Strand, a Schine theater, ended with the charges being dismissed. In support of Lexington CORE's campaign to end discrimination at the Strand and the Ben Ali, another Schine theater, more than 80 persons have picketed two Schine theaters in Rochester, N. Y. The demonstrations were organized by Genevieve Hughes, CORE field secretary and Lawrence Caroline of the University of Rochester NAACP. Other supporting demonstrations at Schine theaters in other communities are planned.

On April 4 in Miami, 35 Negroes and whites joined a revolving stand-in line at the Olympia Theater. The stand-ins at the Olympia will continue, said Larry Lovett, secretary of Miami CORE and one of the participants.

NONVIOLENCE ON PICKET LINE *(Continued from page 1)*

on one occasion and had taken many insults and accusations, I had not yet had a chance to apply the technique of nonviolence. I had heard much about it and I thought that it would be very difficult to be nonviolent in such a situation. However, all I had time to think about was keeping on my feet and keeping my arms down. I had no time to strike back, either in anger or in self-defense. I was helped by the knowledge that my picket mate Pat was with me and would come to my assistance, in a nonviolent way, if necessary. I hope that the people in the crowd were affected in some way by the sight of a nonviolent CORE member being roughed-up by a screaming, nearly hysterical woman of the type familiarized to the entire country by the TV coverage of the school desegregation crisis here. Fortunately, her blows were mostly ineffectual and I was able to continue picketing that afternoon.

Least understandable part of the episode was the behavior of the police. A policeman and a policewoman were stationed across the street, apparently to direct traffic. It is difficult to believe that they did not notice the activity on the opposite sidewalk. However, whether they saw the incident or not, they failed to investigate, even after they had been informed of it about fifteen minutes later by Bob Heller, another CORE member. Later in the day, I was routinely questioned by a policeman about picketing. This was not a result of the incident; the police department questions all pickets nearly every day. This policeman asked me if I was aware of the regulations concerning picketing—do not stop walking, do not speak to anyone, and do not molest anyone. He then stated the ironic remark that if we obeyed these regulations, "the police department would be right with us all the way."

McCRORY STOCKHOLDERS HEAR PROTEST

The annual stockholders meeting of McCrory Corp. in Wilmington, Delaware, heard a protest charging that the company lags behind all other major variety chains in desegregating its southern lunch counters.

Representing CORE, Jim Peck, a minority stockholder, pointed out that while Kresge's, for example, has desegregated its southern stores in all but 3 communities, McCrory's has desegregated only 54% of its 232 southern stores. Figures were cited to show that Woolworth's, the biggest variety chain, Grant's and Kress's are also far ahead of McCrory's in lunch counter desegregation.

Peck also pointed out that McCrory's is the only chain whose head office has consistently refused to enter into negotiations with CORE. He also recalled that it was at McCrory's in Rock Hill where nine CORE sit-inners who recently served 30 days on a South Carolina road gang were arrested and that McCrory's manager in New Orleans testified in court against arrested sit-inners while Woolworth's did not. This marked the first protest against lunch counter segregation to be made at a 1961 stockholders meeting and the first to involve McCrory's. In 1960 the issue was raised by CORE representatives at stockholders meetings of Woolworth's, Kress's and Grant's.

HIT COP'S CONSCIENCE

In Wellston, a St. Louis suburb, the policeman assigned to watch pickets in front of Kresge's had the habit of dropping into the store occasionally for a free cup of coffee.

One day when Vera Williams, one of the pickets, saw him heading for the door, she decided to appeal to his conscience. She told him how the southern students need his support and how nine of them recently spent 30 days on a South Carolina road gang.

The policeman decided she was right. He turned back despite the lure of free refreshments. Incidentally, that particular picket line was so effective that it stopped almost all of the Negro trade and at least 60% of the white trade.

RESTAURANT AGREES TO HALT JOB DISCRIMINATION

The Horn & Hardart Co., whose downtown Philadelphia restaurant was picketed by the local CORE group has agreed to cease job discrimination. CORE will send Negroes to apply for employment.

The policy change was announced by the company after the mayor's commission on race relations issued a report stating that H & H had in fact discriminated in employment.

Prior to issuance of the report, the fact was brought to the public by CORE pickets. They carried signs saying: "Not a Bite While All Waitresses are White," "White Cashiers Only: Is This The North?" and "Help Win Equal Job Opportunities."

Their leaflet said: "While serving everyone, they refuse to allow everyone to serve. We have tried to talk with them. They will not sit down and discuss their policy. There is not a single Negro cashier in the entire restaurant chain and very little possibility that there will be one unless we do something."

IN BRIEF

The Reed College Sit-In Scholarship Committee announces that a scholarship for a sit-in leader is available for next school year. Interested applicants should write Mary E. Coe, Reed College, Portland 2, Oregon, as soon as possible.

* * *

Had the National Civil War Centennial Commission persisted in holding its April 11-12 meeting at the segregated Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston, South Carolina, CORE would have picketed. Plans for the demonstration had just gotten under way when, following widespread protests including two from President Kennedy, the meeting place was changed to the nonsegregated Charleston Navy Base.

* * *

CORE groups throughout the country have been urged by James Farmer, national director, to contribute to Operation Freedom for crop and mortgage loans in Fayette and Haywood counties, Tennessee. New York CORE has sent \$1800; St. Louis CORE, \$1500 and Los Angeles CORE, \$2000. The address of Operation Freedom is 1111 Dayton St., Cincinnati 14, Ohio.

JAIL-INNERS RESUME STRUGGLE

by James Farmer

When eight members of Friendship Junior College CORE completed their 30-day road gang sentences in early March, they pledged to continue the struggle until Rock Hill lunch counters desegregate. The dedication behind their pledge was deeply impressed upon me when I journeyed to Rock Hill together with Thomas Gaither, our field secretary who along with the 8 students had chosen to serve 30 days on the road gang rather than pay a fine.

It was only nine days after termination of the road gang sentences. With callouses from the hard labor still on their hands, John Gaines and Robert McCullough picked up placards and led a picket line at a local drug store whose lunch counter is segregated. As they walked peacefully back and forth, a gang of white hoodlums assembled. As if upon a signal, police walked across the street and started looking into store windows.

As the pickets reversed their line of march in an attempt to turn their backs on the mob, one of the hoodlums struck Gaines on back of the head, knocking him unconscious. As he lay on the sidewalk, others in the mob rushed over and began beating his prostrate body. McCullough sought to shield Gaines from the blows and was also beaten.

Still unconscious, Gaines was taken to the emergency ward of York County Hospital. Within a matter of minutes, news of the assault reached Gaither and he informed me. Together, we went to the Friendship campus where a couple dozen students had gathered in indignation. Among them were Gaines and McCullough with their wounds bandaged. Gaines looked far worse than he does in this photo,



which was taken of him and me somewhat later. His face was a mass of bandages covering cuts above and below his swollen lips. His nose, also bandaged, was misshapen from the blows. A reddened cotton wad stopped the flow of blood from one nostril. On the back of his head was a large bump raised by the initial blow which had knocked him out.

Gaither and I announced that we were returning immediately to the drug store to reestablish the picket line. The first two students who volunteered to accompany us were Gaines and McCullough. At such evidence of dedication and courage, a hush fell over the assembled students. Before long, we had more volunteers than could possibly be used for one picket line. Besides, there were few placards left, most of them having been destroyed by the hoodlums.

There were eight of us in the group which resumed picketing. Two additional ex-jail-inners — Clarence Graham and James Wells — were on the line. The hoodlums gathered again. All were in their 20s — of the leather-jacketed, ducktailed haircut type. After several trips into the drug store, they gathered outside, not far from our picket line and stared with apparent incredulity and indecision. It seemed to me that a flicker of humanity could be seen in their narrowed eyes, their snickering lips. Directly behind me was the man whom they had beaten, holding his placard highest of all. They did not shout the usual taunts and insults. Instead, they conversed in whispers.

We picketed, without incident, for 35 minutes and elected to leave only when police, reversing their previous tactics, dispersed the hoodlums first.

The following day another of the ex-jail-inners — Willy Massey — was arrested for picketing along with four girl-students: Macie Giles, Patsy Sampson, Thelma Davis and Jacqueline Horry.

Commitment of such depth as that shown by these Rock Hill students cannot fail to ultimately win. The struggle in Rock Hill as in all South Carolina has not been easy and will not be concluded as soon as men of good will might hope. But one need only to have seen John Gaines, his eyes bloodshot with pain, walking the picket line, to know that there will be no surrender until human decency penetrates even South Carolina.

FREEDOM RIDE

The Freedom Ride, first interracial trip since 1947 to challenge bus segregation in the south starts from Washington, D. C. on May 2 and ends on May 17, anniversary of the Supreme Court's key anti-segregation decision, in New Orleans.

The 15 Negro and white participants will refuse to accept segregation, not only aboard the buses but also at terminal restaurants, waiting rooms, rest stops, etc. In the event of arrest, they will remain in jail rather than accept bail or pay fines.

The team of 15 is headed by James Farmer, CORE national director. As constituted as this CORElator goes to press, it includes: Julia Aaron, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Bergman, Albert Bigelow, Edward Blankenheim, Rev. B. Elton Cox, Genevieve Hughes, John Lewis, John Moody, Jim Peck, Joseph Perkins, Charles Person, Rev. J. Metz Rollins and Jerome Smith. Ten of the group are from the south. Some are students.

Peck was a participant in the interracial bus trip 14 years ago, which was called the Journey of Reconciliation and was sponsored jointly by CORE and FOR.

The purpose of the Freedom Ride, like that of its predecessor, is to encourage more people to travel desegregated and thus to make bus desegregation a reality rather than merely an accepted legal doctrine. The Freedom Ride differs from the 1947 Journey in three respects. It penetrates the deep south rather than just the upper south, it involves all facilities of bus travel rather than just bus seating and its participants are committed to a policy of remaining jailed-in in cases of arrest. A number of substitutes are standing-by to replace arrested team members and continue the ride in their places.

Little Freedom Ride

A little "Freedom Ride" from East St. Louis, Illinois into the southern section of Missouri was being sponsored by St. Louis and Columbia CORE. There were 16 Negro and white participants, of whom 15 were arrested in Cyrus' restaurant in Sikeston. They were charged with "peace disturbance." Charles R. Oldham, CORE national chairman, represented the members.

"Jailed-In," Thomas Gaither's firsthand, photo-illustrated account of 30 days on a South Carolina road gang, is available from the CORE office at 25c a copy—reductions on quantity orders.

"Go Down Justice — Way Down in Louisville . . ."



. . . sing these arrested students to the familiar tune of "Let My People Go!" They are some of the 177 arrested on picket lines and revolving stand-in lines in front of Louisville's movie theaters March 14. On that day police arrested every demonstrator in sight. Arrests of pickets totaled 439 by April 21.

Despite the mass arrests, Louisville CORE together with the local NAACP and Nonpartisan Registration Committee, continued their action campaign and the color line was cracked. Eight local movie theaters have desegregated as this CORElator goes to press.

Meanwhile, Louisville CORE continues its campaign to desegregate restaurants, with several sit-ins having taken place. 26 additional establishments have begun serving Negroes for the first time. This was announced by Beverly Neal, chairman of the group. On April 1 the city's two leading department stores, Stewart's and Kaufman's, integrated their eating facilities in accordance with an agreement negotiated following mass protest demonstrations in February. Miss Neal also announced that many other restaurant owners have agreed to negotiate.

In early April, an interracial group of 40 from Louisville and Lexington attended a CORE sponsored workshop with special sessions on the sit-in, stand-in and other nonviolent action techniques. James Farmer, CORE national director, and Joseph Perkins, CORE field secretary, led the workshop.

STUDENT JAILED-IN LAST YEAR GETS 120 DAYS MORE

Patricia Stephens, a Tallahassee local CORE leader who a year ago served 49 days in jail along with four others as part of the first jail-in since the sit-ins started, has been sentenced to 120 days more.

Ben Cowins, a student, was arrested with her and received the same sentence. The case is being appealed. The arrests took place while the two were sitting-in at a Neisner lunch counter. On the same day CORE had conducted sit-ins at both McCrory's and Sears.

Meanwhile two white students, Jef-

erson Poland and Derek Lawler, who lost their appeal in last year's case, were jailed for a week prior to paying their fines. Poland, a former vice chairman of Tallahassee CORE, was expelled from the local white university, after applying for admission to the local Negro university.

Imprisoned also for a brief period in connection with that case was Henry Steele, son of Rev. C. K. Steele, the Tallahassee integrationist leader who initiated a bus boycott simultaneously with Montgomery's, in 1956.