

Community Corner

By BEKNICE BASS

Last Sunday night on my WADO "Community Corner" program, the Rev. John W. Collier described the chronology of events surrounding his recent imprisonment, together with several other clergymen and rabbis in Tallahassee, Florida.

When this group was refused service in an airport restaurant in Tallahassee during June 1961, they refused to leave the premises until they were served.

They were subsequently arrested and convicted of unlawful assembly. When bond was posted, the group was released.

Lawyers took the case all the way to the Supreme Court. However, the Court ruled it had no jurisdiction

in the matter because the Florida Supreme Court had been bypassed and the group had thus not exhausted all legal means for redress.

UPON BEING presented with the choice of paying the original fine or serving a 60 day sentence, the group decided that, because of the principle involved, they would serve out the sentences. They were released after four days by a judge who felt their presence was needed up north to quell the race riots here.

In discussing the riots, Rev. Mr. Collier expressed his dismay over the activities of the rioters and looters but he felt attention must be given to the cause which precipitated such action. He said that churches and civil rights groups must revamp those outside the normal sphere of their influence.

Young people with no roots in any group would be among those eventually called into service to protect the freedoms for others which are not attainable for themselves. Therefore, no solution to the problem could be considered without including reaching them.

ADA sponsors trade training for apprentices

The Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) is sponsoring a pre-apprenticeship training course (6 weeks) to prepare workers for entrance into the building and construction trades.

This announcement was made by ADA executive vice-chairman Edward Andrade. He also announced that Ernest Thompson, who successfully directed a similar project in Orange, N.J., will be the director of the Newark project.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Newark Coordinating Council made it known that the NCC was ready to press all the way on the matter of hiring colored people and Puerto Ricans to work as journeymen and apprentices in the building and construction trades.

"WE ARE GOING TO GO all the way to deliver to the training project specific numbers of openings that will be available to those who qualify after training,"

MRS. GERTRUDE GORMAN, NAACP field secretary, was also on hand on Community Corner to describe the rally planned in Atlantic City for Sunday afternoon, August 23rd, just prior to the opening of the Democratic Convention.

When queried as to the purpose of this rally, Mrs. Gorman replied that this rally would be one means of letting the delegates and the Democratic party know what was in the minds of America's colored citizens.

They also wanted to rally support for the newly organized bi-racial Freedom Party from Mississippi headed by the NAACP State president, Dr. Aaron Henry.

When told about New Jersey Governor Hughes' concern that this would be a peaceful rally, Mrs. Gorman stated that steps had already been taken to confer with the Atlantic City police department, the state police and the FBI.

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