

"The Talking Period is Over" Negro Student Says on Race

Truman Has Solution For Racial Problem

A young Negro theology student told a standing-room-only crowd of Negroes in race relations in the South and whites here today that "the talking period is over."

In discussing the progress toward integration achieved by boycotts, "sit-ins" and other nonviolent efforts, Rev. James M. Lawson declared that "the movement is saying clearly that there can be no doling out of freedom in a patronizing way by the white man to the Negro."

"Decisions that affect the Negro," he continued, "must be made with him and by him," and for the right to make those decisions, "Negroes are ready to act—courageously, powerfully, lovingly," he said.

Mr. Lawson, an ordained Methodist minister, has been thrust into national prominence as a result of his being expelled from Vanderbilt University's Divinity School because of his participation in "sit-in" demonstrations in Nashville lunch counters earlier this spring.

While Mr. Lawson accepted an invitation by Boston University to continue his studies in its School of Theology, his expulsion from Vanderbilt has precipitated a crisis at Vanderbilt in which faculty members and the dean of the Divinity School resigned to protest the University's action. Faculty members in other parts of the University have also protested the expulsion.

In Mr. Lawson's presentation today before the Race Relations Institute on the Fisk University campus, he made no allusion to the Vanderbilt situation. In conversation afterwards, however, he did indicate that he hoped to determine before returning to Boston this evening whether he would accept Vanderbilt's compromise offer to grant him his degree on the basis of credits he had earned at Vanderbilt and is now earning at Boston.

Mr. Lawson told the Institute audience, which included a sprinkling of his former Vanderbilt classmates, that the "sit-ins" and other non-violent protests represent "a demand for justice permeated by love."

"Unless the concept of love as it is manifested in the life of Christ becomes translated into democracy," he said, "we won't have true justice."

Mr. Lawson suggested that the Negroes involved in the non-violent movement should become concerned with the "poor white" population of the South, too often, he said, "caricatured by the Negro as 'poor white trash'."

The poor Southern white, he continued, "is the forgotten man of our time. He is as much, if not more, manipulated by the power structure as is the Negro."

Mr. Lawson expressed the hope that Negro leaders could help the poor white man "come to know that his future in a democratic structure is wrapped up with the Negro's and not with the

power structure."

The young clergyman stressed that the non-violent protest movements place little emphasis on using legal means to gain rights for Negroes, but relies on "appeal to the conscience."

"In appealing to the conscience the movement would create the atmosphere in which change could take place," Mr. Lawson said.

An earlier speaker at today's session also emphasized the power of the non-violent movement's appeal to conscience.

Dr. Kenneth Morland, professor of sociology at Randolph Macon College in Lynchburg, Virginia, reported to the Institute on a study he had made of the situation in Galveston, Texas, where lunch counters were integrated this spring following "sit-in" demonstrations and negotiations between store-owners and managers and leaders of both the white and Negro communities.

He summarized the forces which brought this result: "Bad conscience and economics."

Store managers, he said, were frank to tell him that what mattered to them was making a profit. He quoted as a typical "but not unanimous" comment from one store manager: "I don't care who eats here as long as I can maintain a profit in my business."

People in the community with whom he talked about the de-segregating of the lunch counters "were for the most part proud that this had happened," Dr. Morland said.

"They talked in terms of the American ideals," he added.

Dr. Morland, in discussing the "high cost of segregation," reported that in March of this year San Antonio "lost \$2,500,000 because segregation." Two large conventions wanted to come to San Antonio but turned elsewhere when they discovered their Negro delegates could not have equal accommodations, he said.

Dr. Morland who identified himself as a native of Birmingham, Alabama, declared that "deep down there is a wretling going on" over problems of segregation, and referred to the Southern tradition of "friendliness, hospitality and even more important, the basic religious belief that most Southerners hold."

"Segregation is incompatible with the traditional Southern hospitality," he said.

He told the teachers, ministers, social workers and students attending the Institute that he has been "greatly impressed by the calibre of the young Negro leadership in the sit-down movement and their skillful use of the non-violent resistance which, while forbidding you to strike back, applies eremendous pressure."

Praising the students for their readiness to suffer, if necessary, to achieve their

purposes, Professor Morland told of a demonstration in Orangeburg, South Carolina, when police officers challenged some 400 students taking part in a sit-in protest. "When the police asked for the leader of the crowd, all 400 students stepped forward and were promptly arrested."

The sit-ins, which have spread to 80 communities in the South since they began less than five months ago, have brought about a "profound change" in the Negro-white relationship, the Randolph Macon sociologist declared. "For the first time there is communication between Negroes and whites. They are sitting down together and talking over their problems."

Fashion Trend Leaves Season

Latest trends in women fashions indicate a break from "special occasion" and "seasonal clothes" toward ensembles that can be worn anytime and any place, according to an article in EBONY Magazine's issue entitled, "Nation's Best-Dressed Women." To reach this conclusion, EBONY requested 17 women and society column editors throughout the nation to pick what they considered to be the best-dressed woman on their respective metropolitan news beats. Their final choices, published in the article, fell on women ranging widely in age and occupational backgrounds and whose individual tastes ran the gamut from plain street clothes to elaborate formal dresses.

New York, June 6 — Former President Harry S. Truman declared today that the United States "won't have any trouble" when Southerners come to the conclusion that "race and creed and color don't make any difference in what's in a man's heart."

Writing in the current issue of Look Magazine, Truman insisted that Southerners are "just as fine a people as you will find anywhere in the nation" and said there is no doubt in his mind that the South has an important future.

"You will recall that I felt no doubt where I stood on the important issues involving the South in my campaign of 1948," Truman wrote, adding:

"I took a stand that involved serious political risks, and some of the Southern states 'seceded' from the De-

mocratic party. But there was no other course that we could follow and keep the Bill of Rights a living thing."

"Despite the recent resurgence of stubborn sectionalism and racism on the part of some extremists, I believe the South is heading in the right direction."

1st Woman Candidate

NASHVILLE, TENN. — (UPI) — First Negro woman to run for a seat in the Tennessee legislature announced her candidacy last week.

Mrs. Eva L. Bowman, a former inspector and examiner in the state division of cosmetology, will run in the Aug. 4 Democratic primary.

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