

Here Is The Story At Indiana University

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Does 'Jim Crow' Still Exist In Midwest Colleges?

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NANCY STREETS, "Miss Indiana University" of 1959, tickles the "88" in lounge of one of the women's residence halls at Indiana university.

Miss Streets, who is quite modest about her piano playing technique, likes "crazy, way-out poetry."

(Second of a Series)

BLOOMINGTON, Ind.—Indiana University, sixteenth oldest institution of higher education in America, has come a long way since its founding in 1820. From its beginning with one professor and ten students in two courses, the institution has grown to a Bloomington campus enrollment of 12,000, plus about 9,000 full- or part-time students in its Indianapolis divisions and nine extension centers throughout the state.

With a faculty of approximately 1,200, Indiana U. offers 200 majors of academic concentration in 106 departments in ten schools and colleges.

Negro enrollment is estimated at not more than 500 regular, full-time students on the Bloomington campus and about 1300 total, including extension enrollment.

RACIAL INCIDENTS

Bloomington was the site of a series of incidents involving segregation of

Negro students at seven barber shops in the campus area. Effective Friday, Oct. 23, six of the shops' owners agreed to end discriminatory practices. This action followed a meeting held the night before between shop owners and the campus chapter of the NAACP. At this writing the seventh shop in the campus fringe area was still holding out with apparent intentions of continuing segregated policies. The owner was reported as being uncertain of his stand.

Dr. John T. Liell, faculty advisor to the NAACP, said that the group wanted the issue to come to an end as soon as possible. At the time of the Defender's interview with Dr. Liell, the NAACP had reached the second phase of a "Four Step" program to bring about an end to discrimination in the campus area barber shops.

On Nov. 10, of last year, James Billup of Cleveland, O., a student at Indiana,

charged that a haircut administered by white barber Thomas Flora was "purposely sloppy." Flora, according to UPI, was quoted as saying he is willing to cut hair of races other than white but he feels he should cut hair his own way. Flora's shop is one of the seven adjacent to the Indiana University campus.

AFRICAN STUDENT

In another incident, which occurred earlier in the current school term, an African student at Indiana was given a bald haircut without the student's consent. The African, a graduate student who refused to give his name, said the white barber told him "his kind" was not served in the shop. This response came when the student asked the barber why he had taken advantage of him.

Dr. Liell, explaining the NAACP chapter's "Four Step" program to bring about an end to discrimination with regard to the barber shops, cited:

1. Informal pressure or moral persuasion.
 - (a) Silent Stage
 - (b) Public Stage
2. "Positive" picketing which in this instance will

not urge people not to patronize the shops. Instead, the public will be confronted with the belief that the barbers' practice is wrong.

3. "Negative" picketing or asking the people not to patronize shops.

4. Legal action.

Dr. Liell said there had been a "tremendous response" on the part of the responsible element of the Bloomington community. He said religious groups, the university, student government, Cosmopolitan club, American Civil Liberties Union and other groups were behind the move to end discriminatory practices in the barber shops.

ACTION SUCCESSFUL

The NAACP leader said this action had been under consideration from 3 to 4 years. Dr. Liell added that many public pronouncements were made earlier in the controversy. The operation, at the time of the interview, had been successful up to that point, Dr. Liell said.

At one time one of the seven fringe area shops accepted Negro patronage. Then all seven denied service to Negroes. After NAACP action and open indication of public disap-



DR. JOHN T. LIELL, faculty advisor to the NAACP, reports that the Indiana University administration relations with the NAACP "have been good." Dr. Liell figured in the widely-publicized campus area barber shop discrimination incidents at Bloomington.

proval, the situation has been almost completely reversed with 6 of 7 shops responding favorably to positive action in the NAACP program.

"Pickets have been used before at the University," Dr. Liell said. He made reference to a restaurant at the edge of the campus. He said policies at the restaurant vacillated from time to time. Some Negro students were actually thrown out, he reported.

FILE CASES

Two such cases, Dr. Liell (Continued On Page 11)



WALTER BELLAMY, center on the Indiana basketball team (left) is shown in a card game with fellow team-

mates. They are (from left) Dave Granger, freshman forward of South Bend; Tom Bolyard, forward, of Fort Wayne, and Herbie Lee, jun-

ior guard from South Bend. All members of the quartet are physical education majors.

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(Continued From Page 9) ... continued, were filed under the Indiana Public Accommodations Act which, according to Dr. Liell, is seldom used in civil rights issues. The NAACP won all battles in the case and the establishment started serving Negroes.

Dr. Liell, who has been at Indiana U. since 1954, said Bloomington was "a tightly closed town" until after World War II. He pointed out that the Indiana University NAACP chapter is integrated on about a 50-50 basis. Leadership varies from year to year with regard to race. Gerald (Chick) Wilson is presently chairman of the social and legal action group.

Certain social fraternities, Dr. Liell stated, exclude Negro membership. The NAACP is working on this situation. Much advancement has been made in the case of honorary organizations. At least five honoraries at one time had "restrictive clauses," Dr. Liell said.

University housing policies, with regard to room assignments, have been conducted on a "like with like" basis, Dr. Liell declared. Theoretically this practice is supposed to be changed after the student's freshman year. This practice of putting students of the same race together during the first year is believed to be to their advantage.

This seems to be the thinking of what Dr. Liell describes as "lower-level bureaucrats." He said counsellors in the resi-

dence halls and others who fit in this category are people who attempt to re-interpret the University's policy on non-discrimination. Dr. Liell said the University dropped the racial designation requirement on applications.

Dr. Liell said there were not more than 500 Negroes on a regular full-time enrollment basis at Indiana, with 1300 total Negro enrollment in all branches of the University.

NO MOVIE BIAS

Theaters in the Bloomington area are open to Negroes, Dr. Liell said. Most restaurants, with some "occasional backsliding" on the part of a few, are open to all races, he added. On the other hand, Dr. Liell said some taverns absolutely refuse to serve Negroes.

Of the estimated 400 Negroes living in Bloomington, most of them find employment in menial jobs. This has been the finding of the campus NAACP chapter.

One somewhat humorous yet apparently serious matter deals with the case of a Negro barbershop operated in the Bloomington downtown section. The barber, according to Dr. Liell, operates a "segregated" shop in the daytime hours, cutting only the hair of white persons. At night the Negro barber cuts hair of members of his own race, Dr. Liell reported.

NIGHTCLUB SEGREGATION

White barbers operating shops near the campus resent this situation. This

apparently puts the Negro barber in a peculiar position on the question of segregated policies, Dr. Liell pointed out.

Dr. Liell cited certain nightclubs in the Bloomington area which definitely refuse to admit Negroes as customers. There are other clubs which have reversed their policies and now accept Negro patronage.

One particular club, which operates as a cocktail lounge, is the Van Arman Graham, located in the hotel by the same name. Negro patrons are accorded the same courteous service as white customers. The lounge is operated on a highly dignified basis.

GOOD RELATIONSHIP

Dr. Liell pointed out that a new book by Frank Beck, "Race Relations at Indiana U.," offers what he considers a new approach to the race question. He said the book includes the new question involving the institution's housing policy.

"N A A C P relationship with the University is good," Dr. Liell said. He stated that this is true with all policy-making forces on the Indiana campus. "If we can break down discrimination, we can eventually break down prejudice, Dr. Liell said hopefully.

Dr. Liell said 3,000 of 5,000 students, voting in an election conducted two years ago dealing with dropping racial barriers in social fraternities, indicated their favor of ending

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discrimination. Dr. Liell said the then president of the Student Council vetoed the action.

UNIVERSITY ACTION

Three years ago, according to the NAACP leader, the student senate protested student organizations with bias clauses in their constitutions.

Dr. Liell said the University has acted against all places in the city which practice any form of racial bias.

Dean Robert Shaffer, dean of students at Indiana, interviewed on the barber shop situation in the Daily Student newspaper, was quoted as saying students should let their feelings be known to barbers.

ATHLETIC POLICY

Dr. Liell said only two years ago there was a hassle with regard to the policy of the athletic depart-

ment. The policy, he pointed out, is "still ambiguous."

The ACLU chapter on the Indiana campus, like the NAACP group, is conducted on an integrated basis comprised of students and faculty members. George Psathas, speaker for the ACLU organization, is a sociology instructor.

Dr. Liell said he knew of two Negroes at Indiana with full faculty rank. He said there were several Negroes working as teaching assistants.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

The NAACP chapter head said he had received reports of racial problems regarding student employment. He said the issue of alleged discriminatory policies, if any, had not been investigated as yet.

Typical of reports received at other Mid-western

universities, Dr. Liell said there was limited support from Negro students in the in the functions of the functions of the NAACP chapter. The matter of Negro non-participation in protest organizations has been treated further in a study entitled "Why Negroes Don't Join the NAACP," a thesis for the master of arts degree by Ercell Williams.

In talking with Negro students on the Indiana campus it was learned that some Negroes have a tendency to segregate themselves. This was the opinion of several Negro students interviewed on the subject. This question was asked of both undergraduate and graduate students.

SEEK COMPANIONSHIP

Another opinion on the same subject was that some Negro students fra-

ternize with students with whom they feel they have something in common. In other words, students seek companionship with persons who appear to have interests common with their own.

One co-ed said, "Perhaps some Negro students socialize more with other Negroes because they belong to the same fraternities or sororities."

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(The Third article in this series by Eddie L. Madison jr., appears tomorrow.)