The Martin Luther King, Jr. Papers Project


A student from Albany State College

On November 27, 1961, a group of about 300 to 400 students decided to show their support of two suspended students by attempting a mass demonstration and petition de-
sirous of obtaining a justifiable ex-James H. Gray of the Albany Herald de-
ploration as to causes and effects of Tuesday, November 27, 1961, happening.
the students arrest, also the reasonizations of the demonstration.
pressed its intention of obtaining
the full extent of defense for the
students, who were denied this
As can be expected, the support
provided by the students in the form
of demonstration was very successful.
But the realizing of it was by reason
of the "ever-abundance" of our head administrator the good
President Dictator Dennis. He can times be very evasive; this no one
can deny. But yet he wants students
believe that the door of his office is
open to every citizen of the Albany to the city of Albany that for too long
this issue had been pushed in the back-
ground. If the "hot-headed members of
the white race", to which Mr. Gray
referred, were not convinced by the failure
demonstration, the Albany police force
should have scared them away from
any more such VIOLENT ACT.
It is interesting to note that
Gray defines one of the purposes of
Albany State College as that of teach-
ing: "diverse races can live together, productively and meaningfully in a
southern community". If all members
of the community, including Negroes,
should have enjoyed full participation in the a-
nalization and social structures of the
community, there would be no need of def-
nition of "diverse races". We would
like to think that the College is preoccu-
ped with indoctrinating its students with the theory that there
"diverse races", but rather that all
are endowed with certain inalienable
rights of life, liberty and the
run
of happiness. This concept teaches
dignity of each individual and not
diverse races. If the institution is
fact teaching the latter concept the
demonstrations rendered a great
service in forcing all of us to re-
open the eyes of students on trial at
individuals and not as Negroes only

LIT NO MAN CAUSE YOU TE STEEP SE LOV AS TO MAKE YOU HATE HIM.
The American judicial system has often been attacked on the grounds of not being capable of infallibly determining guilt or innocence and of not always rendering decisions which embody the greatest amount of insight and justice. Any system which could correct these flaws would of course be ideal, perhaps could even be described as perfect. As mortal men, we recognize the state of perfection as a goal toward which we, in all good faith, should strive in order to evaluate our undertakings and institutions to as high a moral plane as is humanly possible. Likewise, so long as we remain imperfectly impressed in a moss of jurisprudence is administered in all good faith and wisdom, its continuing ascent toward excellence is assured.

We have recently seen in the Recorder's Court of the City of Albany a step backwards from excellence, indeed a step backwards from wisdom and good faith which has not only resulted in a denial of justice to the defendants involved, but which, through communication, deals a damaging blow to the cause of justice anywhere. We have witnessed a display of gross partiality on the part of one whose impartiality is one of the fundamental bases of our court system. While hundreds, not in the court room, protested against the evil which brought about vital points showing that the charges against the courageous five were inaccurate, false and based solely on the attempt of the city administration to perpetuate, though illegal, the evil of segregation. Yet, the ruling of the court was:

Charles Jones

THE CHARGE WILL BE DISMISSING

Albany, Georgia, November 2, 1961,

an action viewed as unbelievable, any state college officials Tuesday ni. it swore two warrants charging the passive against three student representatives on the Nonviolent Coordinating Committee at the state supported Negro school here, Charles Shrode, the only one of the three accused that the sheriff's deputies were able to locate, was released Wednesday af
during his arrest and jail over night the warrants were withdrawn by the president, William H. Gendry, after his charges. The Board of Regents on Monday

Sherrod along with the two other students, Charles Jones and Arodell Reagon, were charged in the warrants, andSherrod's non-white name. He was given an invitation to appear as a
STUDENTS MAKE FORMAL APPEAL

The two students, Blanton Hall and Bertha Gober, after whom the two students from the state college for Negroes were suspended, have written to the administration of the college. They stated that they had not been heard before being dismissed as they had not received a formal hearing before the three students were suspended. This was done by the Board of Regents of the University of Georgia and was done without the knowledge of the students. The letter stated: "Receipt of your letter of November 23, to Mr. Hall and Miss Gober is acknowledged. Responsible to the administration of the college, for purposes of resisting their summary dismissal from the college."

To this end, I hereby respectfully request that the terms of the suit brought by the college against the students appear before the proper administrative tribunal. This matter may be handled in the form of a protest. The letter to Dean Minor represents the formal attempt of the students to use all means available to allow the administration of the college to grant them their right to appeal. The administrative forces have denied the appeal from the two students they will bring a suit in court to force the administration to hear the charges on which they were dismissed. In such a suit President Dennis, acting for the College, as well as the Board of Regents of the University of Georgia will have to show why the two students should not be readmitted to the college. The facts brought out in such a case would show that the students had a legal right to be in the bus terminal and that Dean Minor and President Dennis suspended the students without using even the procedures which the Board of Regents outlines in such situations.

Lawyer King's letter gave legal backing to the demands of the students for a formal hearing for the two students suspended. This demand took the form of a protest on campus and a petition which was presented to the administration of the college. The action took place last Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and involved more than 600 students. The letter to President Dennis was not seen fit to be handled to the letter from Lawyer King on the petition from the students. The body of the Negro community of Albany, and the Negro community through the Nation is waiting for the compliance from the administration and President Dennis.

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

If you did not register to vote by this Friday, December 1st you will not be able to vote in the election for governor of Georgia this coming June, 1962. However, this does not mean that you can not or should not still register for the city and county elections. Additional information please call the office of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee 426-8235 or come to the office at 402 South Jackson St. Watch the Student Voice for a report on the special voter registration drive which ended December 1st.