

Local, State Leaders Fight to Remove Racial Job Barriers

Seek to Set Up Voluntary Committee To Restore Fair Employment Practices

(Second of a Series)

By DONNA MIKELS

TODAY A GROUP of Indianapolis and Indiana leaders have climbed over the fence of ideals which separated them to work together to try to solve a problem in economics and human rights.

That problem is the unwritten law which denies jobs or advancement in many professions and industries for no other reason than the color of a worker's skin.

Minority leaders, who for eight years have sought fair employment legislation, and the state Chamber of Commerce, which fought and defeated the proposed legislation, are working together to set up a committee for voluntary co-operation.

Through presentation of the need for fair employment, this committee will try to enlist the aid of Indiana employers to open the doors of their industries to everyone on the basis of individual worth.

THEY FEEL that many fair-minded employers would cooperate voluntarily if they knew facts like these:

ONE: That the withholding of jobs costs industry money.

Eric Johnston, former president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce once said:

"The withholding of jobs and business opportunities for some people does not make more jobs and business opportunities for others. Such a policy merely tends to drag down the whole economic level. You can't sell an electric refrigerator to a family that can't afford electricity. Perpetuating poverty for some merely guarantees stagnation for all... prejudice produces no wealth; discrimination is a fool's economy."

TWO: It costs taxpayers more money paying relief costs.

A survey this year showed there were more Negroes than white persons on the Center Township Relief rolls at the same time employment figures showed Negroes were as always the "last hired, first fired."

THREE: It costs the nation, not only in dollars and cents but in strength.

Experts agree that the Communist party has made the biggest gains in situations where they have been able to exploit the problems of minorities.

ONE PROMINENT Indianapolis business and civic leader summed this up in this way:

"I recognize there are 55,000 to 60,000 Negroes unemployed in this city. I know that that large a proportion of the population mustn't be let to drift to where they are always on relief. That's just recognizing what's best for all of us."

"For a long while it has seemed to me plain silly for our people to avoid grappling with the problem. Put it under the bed, don't think about it and shove it into the lap of the Communists."

"And then again there's another reason, I always wonder how I would feel if I were on the receiving end."

It is only proper that Indianapolis should be among the first to try to solve this problem, since its record is one of the worst in the nation.

OF 67 LARGE cities outside the South, Indianapolis ranks 58th, meaning that only nine of the northern and western cities give Negroes a smaller share than does Indianapolis. With Southern cities included, Indianapolis ranks 62d, with only 28 cities with worse records.

Indianapolis incorporates the worst aspects of the southern and northern patterns in Negro employment, either no jobs at all or only the most menial with no chance for advancement.

On the other hand, Indianapolis are some of the best examples of fair employment policies. RCA-Victor, for instance, hires workers on the basis of individual worth and promotes them on this same basis.

Many employers privately will

EVENTS TOMORROW

Indiana State Medical Association—100th Annual Convention—Through Thursday, Murat Temple.

Indiana State Medical Association Women's Auxiliary Convention—Through Thursday, Murat Temple.

"Hail to the Happiest Week in Indianapolis"—Through Friday, Indianapolis. Noon Luncheon Meeting—Non Antlers' Men's Club, Indianapolis. Annual Community and District Meeting—6 p. m., North Methodist Church, 38th and Meridian.

Indiana Democratic Club Dinner Meeting—Indiana Hotel.

Memorial Chapter 589, OES, Stated Meeting—8 p. m., Masonic Temple.

Indiana Writers' Week—Guest Night—8 p. m., Spencer Hotel.

Indiana Delta Kappa Epsilon, Faculty-Alumni Dinner, Meeting—6 p. m., Butler University cafeteria.

Sequoia Club Luncheon Meeting—Claypool Hotel.

Indiana State Bar Association—Lunch Meeting—Washington Hotel.

Marion County High School Musical Program—Sponsored by Youth Symphony Orchestra of Indianapolis—Music—6:30 p. m., college campus.

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West Opposes Russ Plan to Scrap A-Bomb

Bevin to Voice Objections at UN Session

By United Press
British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin was expected today to reject Russia's demands for immediate scrapping of the atomic bomb and signing of a five-power peace pact.

The British diplomat will speak for the West when he goes before the United Nations General Assembly to answer Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Y. Vishinsky's latest proposals on A-bomb control and big power treaty for the strengthening of the peace."

Mr. Bevin was expected to say that despite Russia's possession of an atomic weapon as indicated in President Truman's announcement last Friday, Britain stands with the United States solidly behind the nuclear control program approved last year by an overwhelming majority of the General Assembly.

That plan was rejected by Russia.

ANOTHER JOB-EXCLUSION device is discrimination by unions which keep a man from a job by keeping him out of the union. In Indianapolis can be seen the best and the worst. Some unions openly champion non-discriminatory hiring. Others systematically exclude Negroes from membership.

In a final analysis the advocates of fair employment can't put in support of their argument the Constitutional right of every American to equal job opportunities; the economic fallacy; the affront to human dignity, the absolute contradiction to religious and democratic principles of the nation.

In support of discrimination there it no attempt at justification. Employers who admit discriminatory policies can justify it only as an established custom, and the fear of stirring up new troubles.

"Advocates of fair employment have God and the Constitution on their side," one employer's group representative said, "But they don't have human nature."

It's this so-called "human nature" the budding Fair Employment committee will try to educate. Whether it will succeed is a question only the future can answer. As a barometer of its chances one way or the other, there's nearby Cleveland where the plan has been tried and "succeeded" and "failed" depending which Clevelandite you're talking to.

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Map 'Man to Man' Rally for Teen-agers



A break for teen agers... Judge Joseph Howard (left); Mrs. Neil C. Estabrook, PTA program chairman; Mrs. M. L. Lugar, president of the Shortridge PTA; Judge Alex Cox and Tom Hank, manager, Indianapolis Auto Trade Association, map "Man to Man" rally, with Lt. Harry Bailey, police safety educator.

State Amply Repaid for Cost Of Training Its Physicians

(Continued From Page One)

as the number be increased. Weeks

as a flagrant restraint on the

of the medical care they are receiving.

It is difficult to get into a discussion of medical care without a son who, on sober thought, was willing, able students less qualified from start to

thousands willing, able students who are refused even a chance to get into medical school.

They are the facts, as they were this year in Indiana's medical school.

They are the facts, as they face four more years of college.

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