

# Public Pulse

## Farce Or Reality?

Editor of the Daily News:

The recent occurrence of the Woolworth and Kress incidents merely brings to focus that this thing called the "American Way of Life" is not what it is cooked up to be. In writing, the Constitution of the United States is a documentary masterpiece; but in application it is designed for the white man only, in most instances.

The Honorable Mayor of Greensboro, in his text on the variety store sit-down strike by the Negro college students, made mention of the accomplishments in our fair city regarding racial differences.

Of these so-called accomplishments, he mentioned that Greensboro was one of the three cities that has abided by the United States Supreme Court's decision of 1954. He also mentioned the city bus situation and the War Memorial Coliseum as being on an integrated basis, among other things.

But among these things our honorable mayor failed to mention that integration came about, under the Pearsall Plan, as a means of keeping integration at minimum and not because people felt it was the thing to do, that the city of Greensboro removed the customary seating signs only after other cities had been legal-

ly commanded to do so, that the War Memorial Coliseum had little or no choice but to operate on an integrated basis, being that both black and white soldiers from this city gave their lives for this thing called democracy!

The mayor of our city and any other persons know that the above mentioned "accomplishments" were not achieved out of the sheer love of his black brethren, but under some mode of pressure, legal or otherwise.

It has been shown that as long as the Negro accepts second-class citizenship with no resistance and a buttoned lip, no one in this city or anywhere else will make any attempt to call leaders of both races together for the purpose of ironing out the situations brought on by the injustices of tradition and custom. Only when the Negro stands on his own hind legs and openly shows his resentment to these injustices (as in the Woolworth and Kress incidents) are the city fathers willing to work out a solution to these problems, and not before.

It is good race relations when the Negro accepts the insults and second-class citizenship that are shoved down his throat. It is bad race relations when the Negro stands his ground and demands to be recognized as one of those included in the Constitution of the United States and other documents of human and civil rights.

What is the "American Way of Life," a farce or a reality?

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