



CHICAGOANS TALK with three students who were principal speakers at a NAACP regular monthly meeting last week at Coppin Memorial AME church, 5633 S. Michigan ave. At extreme left

rear is Charles Taylor, of Tuskegee, Ala., student at Tuskegee Institute. Diane Nash of Chicago, a Fisk university coed, is shown in center. At right (facing camera) is Elroy Embry, of Gadsden,

Ala., Alabama State student who was expelled because of protest demonstrations against segregated lunch counters. The students revealed their personal experiences in sit-down demonstrations. Defender Staff Photo

'And Then We'll Win,' Vows Sit-In Students

By ALVIN C. ADAMS

"We will sit-in, demonstrate, sit-in some more, have prayer vigils and sit-in, sit-in, sit-in—and then we will win."

These were the determined words of Chicagoan Diana Nash of Fisk university, Nashville, Tenn. and the spirit of two other southern college students who explained "the movement" to the Windy City NAACP Friday evening in Coppin Chapel AME church.

Four hundred Chicagoans attending the regular monthly meeting of the group heard the three—Miss Nash, Charles L. Taylor of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala. and the Rev. Elroy Embry of Alabama State college, Montgomery, Ala, echo each other's sentiments, **CANNOT BE STOPPED**

"This is something that cannot be stopped."

Taylor, chairman of the Students Civil Rights Active Movement, brought thunderous applause from the group as he explained "We may be arrested and even taken from jail and lynched, but other students will take our place."

"We are afraid," he said, "And we could leave, but we want to stay. We don't want outsiders looking and saying we are fools and that nothing will be gained. There have been gains already."

The Tuskegee student said a committee of 15 has been formed to coordinate action with Alabama State college students, some 39 miles away in Montgomery.

"When State protests from now on, Tuskegee will protest," he asserted.

EASTER VACATION

He and Embry, one of the nine Alabama State college students ordered expelled by Alabama Governor John Patterson, issued a joint appeal to all Negro college students in the South to use their Easter vacation trips to fight segregation.

Embry, first vice-president of the student sit-down movement at Alabama State college, and the Tuskegee protest leader urged students to sit in white waiting rooms and use facilities restricted to Negroes during their trips home.

Embry of Gadsden, Ala., said that late last month Alabama State college students read of sit-in protests elsewhere in the South and decided they couldn't sit idly by.

They consulted with the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, leader of the Montgomery Improvement As-

sociation and decided to "sit-in" at the county court house snack bar.

BECAME FRUSTRATED

The following day 200 students attended the trial of a classmate who had attempted to vote. On Saturday white men patrolled the streets with ball bats, Embry related, and when the students didn't show up "became frustrated and swung on the nearest Negro—a woman."

Embry said that on March 1, Alabama State college president H. C. Trenholm was ordered to report all students involved in the court house demonstration.

Trenholm told the board of education he did not know which students participated, according to the student, and asked that the 35 suspects be put on probation rather than suspended, as was recommended by officials.

RUN US DOWN

But Gov. Patterson issued an order to have the nine leaders suspended and the other 26 put on probation.

Embry explained that a demonstration at the capital, proposed by the Rev. Abernathy, to protest the expulsion was broken up by 400 law officers, "backed by 5,000 white residents and a squad of men on thoroughbred horses ready to run us down."

A similar student-planned demonstration four days later, March 8, on campus was "nipped in the bud" by school of-

ficials.

NERVOUS BREAK-DOWN

Embry said several students left campus to pick up posters for the protest and were re-entering the campus when the white superintendent of buildings cocked a gun in the face of a 17-year-old girl, who nearly had a nervous break-down, and drove them off campus into the arms of waiting police.

Thirty-five were arrested, including one adult.

Taylor explained Tuskegee students were hampered from demonstrating by city ordinances in Tuskegee but "We had to make some show," he stated.

BOYCOTT OF CLASSES

A boycott of classes at Tus-

kegee Institute in support of similar action at Alabama State college protesting expulsion of the nine students was 85 per cent effective, the Tuskegee native said.

School officials tried to talk students out of a march into town, but were unsuccessful, Taylo stated. For hundred joined the movement.

Miss Nash, representing the Nashville-Christian Leadership Council, told those attending the NAACP rally "Segregation is in the best interest of whites as well as the Negroes."

By separating the races, southern whites have been denied the opportunity to observe and absorb any of the cultural traits of the minority, she explained.

The Chicagoan said sit-in demonstrations resumed in Nashville Friday after a two-week truce.

Students had agreed to halt demonstrations while a bi-racial committee studied the situation, but after two-and-a-half weeks all they suggested was token integration.

Miss Nash, who refused bail when arrested and mopped workhouse floors, said the resumed sit-ins were supported by Tennessee A and I university, American Baptist Seminary, Meharry, Fisk and Vanderbilt, a white school.

Insisting that "Negroes never again will be content as second class citizens," Miss Nash emphasized that "now is the time for social change and segregation must be stamped out once

and for all."

She urged citizens to send letters of encouragement to jailed students and send contributions to NCLC in care of First Baptist church, 319 8th ave. N. in Nashville.

When Fisk students were arrested, 12 attorneys, every Negro lawyer in Nashville, came to their defense without compensation she stated. A donation was taken up at the rally.