

Manhattanville College To Participate In Annual Interracial Justice Week

The week of February 17-23 is commemorated throughout the United States as Brotherhood Week. In order to give this week meaning and purpose, college campuses have designated these seven days as Interracial Justice Week.

Mother Dammann our college's past President, expressed the ideal of Manhattanville education which is to develop in students "that sense of value of truth and that spirit of sacrifices which will 'do the truth', cost what it may". Concerning a concrete problem, such a complex and delicate one of interracial justice, Mother Dammann further explained that "a day has gone by when we can blithely live as compartmental Catholics with our political, business, intellectual, social activities in air-tight compartments functioning separately like parts of a well-behaved machine." As students of the Twentieth Century World, we cannot isolate our concern for a problem such as that of racial relations, into an air-tight vacuum. Some realize their responsibility to all men. Others give a certain part of every week to help bring about interracial understanding. This, however, is not enough. Our relationship with, and our concern for, other persons is related to our entire lives. It is not merely a small segment of us which is made active at designated times.

Interracial Justice Week on

Manhattanville's campus brings an opportunity for exploring ways and means of integrating our thoughts and actions with the interracial and intercultural forces of our own society. The week's program will include a conference on Sunday, February 17th, on Action for Interracial Understanding, Mass on Monday offered for Interracial Justice, and Mother Jenkins' concert of Negro spirituals on Tuesday night. A display in the Fish Bowl will illustrate the importance of the Negro in American History. These are some of the activities which were selected to fit into the varied intellectual and spiritual channels of Catholic college campus life.

Although the "penny a day jars" seem as much a part of the canteen decor as the cigarette machines, these jars serve the distinct purpose of reminding us to give to the Father La Farge Scholarship Fund. These jars serve as another small means of making us aware of the necessity of integrating actions with convictions. Many object to the sit-ins on the ground that what happens in the South is not our concern. Others object to the picketing on the grounds that individuals cannot tell other individuals what to do with their property. And yet most people agree that education lies at the very core of the racial problem. Through giving to the Father La Farge Scholarship Fund, an opportunity is offered to students to con-

tribute positively and yet, right here at home! This money will give a qualified Negro girl an opportunity to attend Manhattanville. During Interracial Justice Week, special emphasis is placed on the scholarship fund, not just because it is hoped that the fund will substantially increase, but because this giving is one of the ways that students can actively contribute in a practical and positive way to the alleviation of the interracial misunderstandings which are present in our society.

By active participation in a program such as that of Interracial Justice Week, each student is concretely committing herself to those spiritual, intellectual, and social values which are the values of a liberal Catholic college such as Manhattanville.