

patterns of segregation that exist and the inability of the law enforcement authorities to truly relate to the poor in our community and the resultant grossly insensitive attitude of the police and other official agencies in the community can no longer be ignored.

In the winter and spring of 1967, the basic failure to overcome the foregoing problems were accentuated by other factors. There was increased concern of many in the community about claims of acts of police brutality. The decision to establish a medical school in the heart of the central ward of the city, which has the largest concentration of Negroes and poor in the city, without involvement of the community in reaching such decision, produced substantial resentment. The proposed appointment of a white political leader as a replacement for the secretary to the Board of Education which completely ignored a Negro from Newark who was unquestionably the most qualified candidate for the position, likewise, caused deep resentment. These problems aroused many persons of the community, both black and white, and increased the tensions and undercurrents within the city.

However, these concerns of the citizens in the community were substantially ignored. The problem of the appointment of a successor to the Secretary of the Board of Education is a glaring example of what aroused the community. The refusal to appoint Mr. Parker, then employee as Budget Director of the City, the first Negro to become a Certified Public Accountant in the state of New Jersey, an honor graduate of Cornell University School of Business Administration and the holder of a Master's Degree was viewed as a rejection of opportunity for Negroes to advance. The white person under consideration and completed high school, and his work experience was in no way comparable to Mr. Parker's except that he was a member of the City Council. Both the Negro community and many representatives of the white community expressed gross dissatisfaction and indignation with the adamant position taken in refusing to recognize the best qualified candidate for this important and vital post. Moreover, the leading newspaper of our state also joined in the condemnation of the refusal to select the best qualified individual. This conduct caused many Negroes in the community to charge that the promises and assurances that a better life would be theirs if they pursued their education were in truth meaningless and empty phrases. It was said again and again throughout the black ghetto that even where the Negroes of our community had the superior qualifications, there was a different test applied.

It is my firm conviction that this rejection of Mr. Parker was one of the contributing factors in inciting community people to express their hostilities in such a dramatic fashion in mid-July.

It has been said that UCC contributed to the outbreak in Newark because it aroused people over this appointment. I categorically deny this. UCC did not take any position on the appointment of the School Board Secretary. No one spoke on behalf of, or as a representative of UCC at any of the Board meetings when this issue was being considered.

Individuals and other groups did protest the School Board's actions, some of whom were members of UCC. However they spoke out as individuals or representing other groups and not UCC. As heretofore noted, we have more than 10,000 members of our corporation representing diverse views in the community. UCC cannot and should not be charged with responsibility for the conduct of its members or staff except when they are acting on behalf of the corporation.

The history of the medical school controversy, likewise, reflects that any charge that UCC contributed to the Newark outbreak by its conduct in this regard is without merit and fact.

Our corporation endorsed the advantages to the community of establishing a new medical and dental school in the City of Newark.

However, our Board of Trustees passed a resolution objecting to the construction of a medical school on the selected site, (consisting of 150 acres in the heart of the Negro community of the city) without advance adequate provisions for relocation of the persons to be displaced.

It was the position of our Board that the land sought was grossly in excess of any reasonable needs, taking into account the much more limited acreage utilized by the State University in the establishment of a new Law Center, the expansion of the Newark Rutgers Campus, and the rebuilding of the Newark College of Engineering. No effort was made to truly consider the concerns expressed by the community with respect to the excessive demand of 150 acres