

Bogle, Victor

IUK ARCHIVES

April 12, 1968

To: All Kokomo Campus Faculty and Staff.
From: Victor M. Bogle, Dean, Kokomo Campus.
Subject: "Statement of Beliefs" Pledge Card.

The day following the report of Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination, a group of interested citizens in the Kokomo community met together to discuss what short- and long-range measures might be taken to eliminate the conditions which allow such tragedies to occur. It was this group, terming itself the "Committee of 23," that organized last Tuesday evening's march and memorial service for Dr. King at Carver Center.

The Committee of 23 intends to establish itself as a permanent, active force in the Kokomo community and work diligently for the improvement of conditions for the Negro. Its membership is bi-racial; it is composed of clergy, business men, representatives of the news media, and educators. Father Richard Cooper, one of our associate faculty, is chairman of the Committee; Mayor John W. Miller is taking an active role in its deliberations.

One of the initial steps being taken by the Committee is the circulation of the "Statement of Beliefs" pledge cards. The Committee hopes that several thousand citizens of Kokomo will sign these cards and thus express in a tangible manner their support for the cause of racial improvement in this community. At Tuesday's memorial service over 1,500 of these cards were signed and returned. It is hoped that over the next few days many more persons will sign them.

As members of the Committee, Dr. Herbert Miller and I are making a personal effort to get these cards in the hands of people--students, faculty, staff--associated with the Kokomo Campus. We trust that you will do two things in support of our personal effort: (1) seriously consider signing the card attached to this announcement; and (2) bring this matter to the attention of your students. (Additional cards are available at the switchboard window, Room 123.) Signed cards may be placed in "campus mail" slot, Room 123.

Any advice or suggestions you may have for the Committee will be greatly appreciated. Please pass them along to Dr. Miller or to me.

STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

As an American, mindful of the supreme sacrifice of Dr. Martin Luther King, I believe that the rights of man belong equally to all races, religious faiths and nationalities and therefore support equal opportunity for all men in:

1. Housing
2. Employment
3. Education
4. Social recognition

In the knowledge that my beliefs are just, I pledge to dedicate my efforts and thoughts toward their realization for the betterment of my community, my state and my nation.

Signed

Address