

Co-ed Leads Drive for Racial Justice

If you think pretty college girls devote their spare time exclusively to clothes, gab fests, proms and varsity men, think again!

Up at Manhattanville College the girls are not only thinking about a most pressing problem, but acting positively to help solve it.

Peggy Brown, a slim, dark-eyed senior, is spearheading a national movement in Catholic colleges over the country to remind students of their responsibility toward members of other races.

Justice Week Set.

Miss Brown is chairman of the National Commission on Interracial Justice established at her college by the Federation of Catholic College Students. She and her fellow members are deep in plans for "Interracial Justice Week" to be observed under leadership of local commissions in more than 100 Catholic colleges over the U. S. beginning Feb. 28.

As she explains it: "What we try to do is awaken Catholic college students to an awareness of the problem and get them to thinking about it. Then show them what they can do."

She added seriously: "We think about the political side of it and the economic issues, but we've got to remember that underlying we must have a firm foundation for our own thinking. That should be the teaching of Christ on the brotherhood of man—"

"That God made us all equal and it's not up to us to establish inequality!"

Lot To Be Done.

Anne Montgomery of Kodiak, Alaska, a member of the commission, spoke up earnestly: "People should consider other races on the basis of their own. In colleges, there's a lot of work to be done on that. When people are young, their views can be changed."

Joseph Nearon, chairman of the local commission at Manhattan College, a Negro student, said the point he'd like to stress "is the indifference and ignorance in understanding of the problem at all."

In his personal experience, he revealed, "I can never remember an act of malicious prejudice but I've heard very many remarks that could be construed as ignorance."

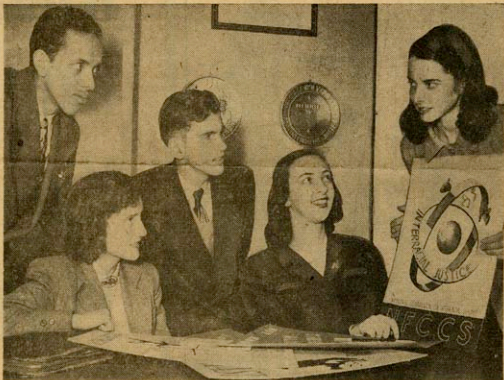
They Know So Little.

He said the whole purpose of the program is to make people aware of the fact that they are prejudiced and give them facts about other races—"They know so little."

At each college, students have competed in play, short story, poetry and poster contests, thus expressing their views on the subject creatively.

A Manhattanville student, Patti Iwanaga, has written a play on the theme, the Christian idea of interracial justice, which will be presented on Feb. 3 by the Dramatic, English and Glee clubs. Other events and exhibits are scheduled.

At Manhattan College the commission is sponsoring a series of lectures on the historical back-



Members of the National Commission on Interracial Justice discussing one of the posters they will use in their drive (from left): Joseph Nearon and Clare McGowan of Manhattanville College, Harry Olmsted of Fordham, Peggy Brown and Anne Montgomery of Manhattanville College.

World-Telegram Photo by Aumuller.

ground of the race problem in the U. S. At Fordham Harry Olmsted, local chairman, announced a series of six broadcasts on WFUV, the campus FM station, presenting skits written by stu-

dents on difference aspects of the question.

March of Quarters.

All over the country in Catholic colleges a March of Quarters is in progress, with students con-

tributing quarters to establish interracial scholarships.

Boyish-faced Mr. Olmsted emphasized: "I'd like to stress that prejudice isn't an attack on one race, but a sin against God."