

THEOLOGICAL FACULTY HITS TACTICS,
BUT NOT GOAL, OF CULTURAL SOCIETY

SEWANEE, TENN. — (AP) The theological faculty of the University of the South Friday night released a statement concerning attempted sit-in demonstrations here by a group of Episcopal clergymen.

The clergymen have been protesting the racial policies of the Claramont Restaurant, which is leased from the university. The theological faculty at Sewanee consists of 10 ministers and two laymen. They are natives of various parts of this country and Canada.

The statement, in full:

"It is our conviction that the Christian faith and racial segregation are inherently contradictory. This is the common conviction of numerous persons and groups who over the years have worked for the elimination of segregation in the University of the South.

"In 1953, prior to the Supreme Court decision, the School of Theology was integrated. Since then the university has successively integrated the Summer Graduate School of Theology and the entire university structure, including the College and the Sewanee Military Academy, together with such university-owned facilities as the Union Sandwich Shop and public concerts and plays. The university is now in the process of exerting its moral influence to bring about the elimination of racial barriers in the Claramont Restaurant and Sewanee Inn, a private business operated under lease in university-owned buildings.

"These changes have been brought about essentially by internal pressures by the duly constituted authorities of the university, its trustees, regents, administrators and faculties. The Episcopal Society for Cultural and Racial Unity, on the basis of the same conviction and seeking the same objectives, is employing tactics which in the Sewanee situation we believe ineffective and unnecessarily destructive. While we recognize that many difficult problems remain, we are grateful for the progress that has been made. Thus we will continue to attempt to be responsible in our local situation as we continue our determined efforts to bring about the elimination of racial segregation, here and elsewhere."

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