

V.J. -1

My Views On the “Riot”

Many people are writing about [...] incidents, and statements in defense of the riot, its [...]. But my views are just the opposite, or shall we say of another nature.

I will first say that the entire movement has my support. I was not in the downtown march Thurs, [sic] but I was told of many cruel things which policemen did that were unjust. But my incident concerns the crime of looting. I prefer not to mention correct names because of family ties involved.

A close in law of mine called to tell me that her brother Herron had “half of Pape’s Men Store” at home on the bed. Herron had had been in jail once for forgery and is always involved in something crooked. This is why I say it was a crime. He went down to the march looking for something to happen and another chance to loot and steal.

The unfortunate part of it is his sister and mother seem to think nothing of it and they are considered to be most respectable people in the neighborhood. His sister Brenda could be laughing about the loot he had collected, which consisted of some 22 sweaters (\$30 + up each), 30 shirts, a bolt of men’s suit material and shoes. I think that things like this really defeat our overall purpose and strives in the movement, It is shameful to know that there are people who are just waiting on violence and disturbances to occur for their own personal gain.

1

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After talking with a few of the people who participated in the march last Thursday, I came to the conclusion that Memphis police used crucial and inhumane treatment with two persons, one of which was attacked and beaten unmercifully. This is the way he related to me.

He had decided to leave the march and returned to his car. At this time, quite a bit of action was still going on downtown, such as breaking windows and looting, with the police using all types of actions to restore law and order. While he was driving back to his place of business, he noticed a group of Negro women being questioned by

1