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LeMoyne Reflections on Sanitation Strike March pp. 179-188 -- C.H.

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C.H. -1

[Illegible]

1

C.H. -2

[Illegible]

2

C.H. -3

[Illegible]

3

C.H. -4

[Illegible]

4

C.H. -5

Going to [illegible] if in our effort to get [illegible] people began to throw bricks at the police. They then shot a tear-gas bomb and we began to run again.

When we go on 3rd Street we stopped so that the rest of the people who came to the church with us could catch up so that we could all leave together. Out of ten only five of us were together. As we waited on Third Street we saw the police brutally beat a senior from the high school that my brother attends.

In about five minutes we saw many people carrying clothes, guitars, radios, cameras and bolts of material. This of course was wrong but at the time it just didn't seem so bad. Please don't misunderstand. I'm not

5

C.H. -6

Condoning looting and destruction of property, it's just that at the time I was [illegible] my safety and the safety of my friends, than about the looting.

Before the other half of our party reached us, the crowd was chased down 3rd and we were on the run again. We kept off the street and went through yards and alleys. We jumped off a 6 foot high fence, something which I couldn't have done unless I was scared to death, (and I was).

When we reached our car on Ponotoc we could see the people and the police fighting on the corner of Hernando and Ponotoc in front of Claybourne [sic] Temple. There were many bombs being exploded up there.

6

C.H. -7

Soon the police were on Ponotoc. [illegible] and began to hit the man.

They then came over to us and told us to get this ---- car out of here. They told us to drive toward Hernando. The cop picked an inopportune time to stall and we rolled up our windows because there was gass [sic] on Hernando. The police must have thought that we were deliberately stalling and one of those cops began to beat our car door with his stick. When we finally did get started we drove up Ponotoc to Hernando where we were told to turn around and go back the same way we just came from. When we

7

C.H. - 8

Absent

C.H. -9

Said that the police on that end told us to go this way whe [sic] were told that they didn't give a --- and for us to get the ---- out of there. You can see the [illegible] we were in. We finally went down Ponotoc and out 3rd. We [illegible] the troubled area and tried to wait until things cooled off to pick up the rest of our group.

About an hour later we were walking back to Claybourne [sic] Temple hoping to find them. It was in front of the church that we got tear-gas in our eyes. It [illegible] something awful and the more you [illegible] the more the more it hurts. [Illegible] the church and washed our eyes. Our friends were not there and there was nothing left for us to do but go home.

We were happy to find out that our friends had safely gotten home in another car and that they were

9

C.H. -10

Worried about us because we were so late getting [illegible] that the school [illegible] which the teachers had closed at 12:00 and she was worried about us. My father who was out of town had called home to say that he was taking the next train home.

This was an experience I will long remember. It was both frightening and exciting. The death of my brothers [sic] classmate, Larry Payne, had a grace effect on us. We knew the boy well and at first we didn't believe it. Anything I might say about his death will naturally be biased but I'll say it anyway. [Illegible] that the boy was [illegible] negro. [Illegible] to draw a knife on a man with a shot gun. What is worse is that his [illegible] was pointless. Nothing

10

C.H. -11

Was done that whole day to help my race at all. [Illegible]

[Please excuse my horrible spelling]

[Especially the spelling at Clayborn Temple]

11