

City's 'Racism' Hidden, Panelists at UW Claim

By RAYMOND MERLE
(Of The State Journal Staff)

Madison's brand of racism was described Wednesday afternoon as hooded, under the surface, evasive, and hard to define.

It hides behind a cloak of liberalism and not much is being done about it, according to points brought out by four panelists.

The "Racism in Madison" panel discussion was part of the conference on "The Black Revolution" at the University of Wisconsin that began Monday and continues through Saturday.

THE PANELISTS were Lawrence Saunders, publisher, and Eugene Parks, associate editor, of the Madison Sun; Alicia Ashman, Madison's 10th Ward alderman; and Frank Emspak, a history graduate student at the University.

More than 100 persons jammed the Old Madison Room in the Memorial Union for the discussion which was also piped down to the main lounge for the other listeners.

PARKS SAID racism won't become an issue for whites in Madison until the black community becomes larger, stronger, and more vocal.

When that takes place, he

said, white reaction to blacks will increase.

As examples of racism in Madison, Parks cited few Negroes in writing, arts, politics, or in higher positions in industry.

"In Madison schools," Parks said, "black history has been accepted but not so strongly as modular scheduling or school boundary line changes."

Parks also scored the press in Madison for not "truthfully" exploring racism.

SAUNDERS SAID "I'm greatly disturbed by the failure of organizations in this city to get down to the nitty gritty of the Kerner Report. You don't even dare mention the Walker Report.

"They say 'We'll just let you go so far black boy, and then stop,'" he added.

Saunders said situations that occurred in Milwaukee and

other larger cities can happen here.

"I wonder if many people really try to understand the problems of minority groups?" Saunders asked. "I don't understand how an educated city like Madison can have so much fear and hate, all under the surface."

SAUNDERS ALSO said newspapers and "so called liberals" in Madison are hiding behind cloaks on racism.

Emspak, an organizer of People Against Racism, said that in a capitalist society it is profitable to have racism in such areas as housing, jobs, etc.

"I think all those problems exist in Madison. Property rights and the right to make a profit are held more important than human rights," he said.

MRS. ASHMAN noted that while Madison has a reputation for being a liberal community, some of its programs for minorities "are gathering dust on shelves."

She said banks in Madison have a poor record of making loans to minority group members, and added that private citizens groups have helped in a limited way but lack funds.

UNIVERSITY REGENT Walter Renk, responded during a question and answer period to a statement by Parks that one example of racism at the University was the refusal to give up University stock in Chase Manhattan bank.

Renk, who noted that he was not representing the Regents, said the stock was given to the University in trust, and added, "We can't just do what we want with those."

Parks later shot back that the University's holding the stock is "an obscene thing because the bank is making a tremendous amount of money off Africans."

The Rev. Max Gaebler, minister of First Unitarian Society, served as moderator.

DIFFERENT ADDRESS

LaVern Hahn, 33, facing court hearings on charges of selling obscene movie films and receiving football bets, lives at 2110 Aberg Ave., not an Iowa Dr. address listed on his court warrants and published previously.

Kenneth C. Bram Appointed as Police Chief in Monona

Kenneth C. Bram, 32, sergeant in charge of the Monona Police night force for nearly nine years, began duties Wednesday as police chief.

He was selected from five applicants by the Monona Police and Fire Commission to succeed Walter A. Kind, who resigned three months ago and is now Dane County Civil Defense operations and training officer. Sgt. Jack Geiwitz had been acting chief.

Bram, who joined the force Apr. 1, 1960, will be Monona's first "city" police chief when the village officially becomes an incorporated city after the April election.

The department has 11 police officers, plus two part-time policemen, a dispatching staff of six men, and Mrs. Doris Lendborg, office manager who fills in on the radio-dispatch desk.

Bram is a native of Martins-



CHIEF KENNETH BRAM

ville, near Springfield Corners; graduated from Middleton High School, and is an Army veteran serving from 1956 to 1958 with the Third Infantry presidential honor guard for President Dwight D. Eisenhower. He is a graduate of the Madison Police Academy and several regional FBI training schools.

He and his wife, Margaret, live at 401 Starry Ave.