

King's Death Draws Student Opinions

On Thursday, April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was killed by an assassin's bullet.

Student feelings and opinions were immediately expressed concerning his death and its implications.

Death Did More

Susan R. Potter, a freshman majoring in Commercial Art: "Ironically, by dying Dr. King has accomplished even more for the Negro than he did in life."

Karen J. Gembarosky, a freshman majoring in Elementary Education: "It was terrible. It is a sad state when someone gets killed for what he believes."

Ralph E. Angotti, a junior majoring in Commercial Art: "The person who did it is stupid, because he (King) started the Civil Rights movement."

Wrong Man Shot

Lawrence B. Kitt: "I felt bad. He was the wrong man to be assassinated. A lot of what he wanted has been accomplished after his death."

Opinions were also voiced on the reasons for the rioting.

Miss Potter: ". . . it is just an excuse. Now that he is out of the way, they can do all the violence they want."

Mr. Angotti: "Looting has nothing to do with Civil Rights, although people have a right to be angry."

Mr. Kitt: "I would say that 51% are using it as an excuse."

Miss Potter: "More emphasis will be given on Civil Rights. They do not want violence any more than we do."

Mr. Angotti: "They are trying to accomplish something overnight that cannot possibly be done."

Mr. Kitt: "The death has brought about an escalation of Civil Rights by Washington."

This point is illustrated by the passage of the Civil Rights bill by the Senate on Wednesday.

Disturbances Locally

On the local scene, disturbances erupted Monday afternoon on the city's South side. Two policemen and a negro civilian were wounded during the outbreak of violence at a playground. A curfew was immediately put into effect by Mayor Anthony B. Flask from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

The National Guard was requested by Mayor Flask. As soon as they made their appearance on the scene, things began to quiet down.

On Tuesday, 800 extra National Guardsmen were called in from Akron. The Mayor also closed all bars until the end of the week. He also ordered the curfew to remain in effect.

As a result, evening classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday were cancelled at the University.