

Students Protest 'No Parking', Police Use Tear Gas Bombs

Throng Marches On State Capitol

By Lee Harris

Tear gas, the Lincoln riot squad, and the city fire department were not enough to disperse a milling crowd of students rioting in protest against "No Parking" regulations on 12th and R Streets Friday morning.

The riot began when police-directed tow trucks attempted to move double parked cars from 12th and R Street. Protesting students deflated tires of two tow trucks and gathered around the two police cars sent as reinforcements. Police used tear gas bombs and called out the city fire department when it became evident that the crowd would not disperse.

Bombs Spark Crowd

As Ralph C. Fox, photographer from the Lincoln Journal tried to snap a picture of Sgt. Harry Goeglein holding a student, Detective Robbins pushed Fox into the cruiser and said "We don't want any g-- d--- pictures taken!"

The bombs sparked the crowd into action and within a few minutes the enthusiastic mob of better than 2000 began a march which carried them from 12th and R to the police station. From the police station students marched to the City Hall and then up O street to the State Capitol building.

Chants of "We want parking" fired the mob as they progressed through the town, blocking traffic and causing curious office workers to appear at the windows in an effort to watch one of the few crowd demonstrations the city of Lincoln has ever witnessed.

Traffic Halted

Traffic was stopped at 13th and O where students gathered reinforcements to march on the Capital building. There the crowd poured up the capital steps and into the main hall, where chants of "We want Val" replaced the cry of "We want parking."

The crowd sat on the floor of the halls of the Capital while a delegation of twelve students issued the protest against "No parking regulations" to Governor Val Peterson.

"Order To Be Maintained"

The Governor told the representatives that the chancellor had the primary jurisdiction over the University parking problem. He continued by saying that the County Sheriff was the secondary authority and that his office, aided by the State Militia, was the last resort of authority.

Peterson reiterated his statement made to the Omaha packing house workers last week by telling the student delegation that under all circumstances order would be maintained. He also stated that the situation had been greatly exaggerated and that no need of state action seemed near.

The representatives directed three questions to the Governor.

1. When would the impounded automobiles be released?
2. Why did the police treat the actions of the crowd initially as a riot, and at the same time who ordered the police action in the first place?
3. What will be done to alleviate the parking problem on the University campus?

State Lacks Authority.

The representatives of the group who were in the Governor's office were Lynnwood Parker, Woody Long, Stanley Partsche, Kenneth Templin, Glenn Gross, Dean Towle, Gladys Jackson,



THE MOB BEGINS MARCH and converges on the Police Station. Students chant "Get Them Out of Jail" as they swarm up to the doors to be met by flashing photographers' bulbs. Notice car and the torn-up "No-Parking" sign held by smiling students. The crowd marched through downtown streets before curious onlookers and stopped traffic before reaching the station. Unsatisfied by the answer of police, the milling students streamed toward the city hall on the second step of the three-stop journey.



STUDENTS ENTER THE CITY HALL in noisy protest against police action. Demonstration caused by campus parking troubles.



STUDENTS RUSH THE CAPITOL STEPS, shouting "We want Val." The throng of protesting students rushed to the capitol from the city hall. There, Gov. Val Peterson met with a small group and arranged a meeting with University officials.

—Photos Courtesy Lincoln Journal

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