Corner Loungers Germantown Problem
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Corner Loungers Germantown Problem

To the Editor:

This is the phrase used by one of Germantown's successful colored business men.

In an official survey of Philadelphia and its vicinities it was pointed out that corner lounging exists most entirely in the Negro communities, with the exception of extreme poor white sections.

Is there any reason for this? Yes and no. It is agreed that boys and young men do not have to stand on the corners. It has been definitely proven that they can find time for more useful things of a progressive and cultural nature; but it seems that the young men possessing these characteristics need not be told, "Don't loiter on the corner," for they find themselves, or at least take it for granted that they are above this level.

Is Germantown suffering from lack of interest?

The part of Germantown that is called "Pulaski-town" is suffering from extreme pressure on all sides.

Considering that there are boys' clubs and playgrounds, the community, therefore, must be lacking in support and interest.

When one criticizes, it must be with a neutral viewpoint. No one need not be told of the shameful disgrace corner lounging brings to all communities. The citizens have a right to protest.

When you insist that this degrading habit should go, be sure you have a place prepared for them.

It is with your own lack of cooperation and disinterest that conditions such as these exist, but remember you would not be so unfair as to send these unfortunate young men to institutions.

You have absolute right in demanding your usage of public thoroughfares. None should be cloitered to disrupt your business. Sometimes justice only deepens wrong instead of righting it.

LAFAYETTE MORSE

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