
NEWS AND VIEWS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

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MISSISSIPPI STATE OFFICE

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1072 West Lynch Street
Jackson, Mississippi

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September 11, 1958

Medgar W. Evers
Field Secretary

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

Fellow Workers for Freedom:

I have just attended the policy making meeting of the National Board of Directors. It was agreed among all members of the forty-five man board that this was the most productive of all meetings held in recent years. It was brought out in one of the final conferences that our fight is at a critical point because we are approaching our goal.

The board expressed concern over the reluctance of Mississippi Branches to actually go out and recruit people to write memberships.

The U. S. Supreme Court has ruled that we do not have to submit our membership list to anyone. This should remove fear on the part of unfortunate persons who are vulnerable to economic pressure. You should make it clear to people that they may contribute \$2.00 or more and become members without their names being known.

The board also urges that we explore every possible avenue through which we may increase our political action program by registering and voting.

FUND RAISING

A domestic servant, now retired, of San Francisco, California, gave to the N.A.A.C.P. \$10,000 cash. She is now eighty-three years old, and was determined to make her contribution before passing on. Look around your communities for persons who are interested in freedom. They may not give \$10,000, but will make a substantial contribution in our quest for freedom. If she at her age gave \$10,000, certainly we can give \$5.00 for our freedom.

We are aware of the recession which has caused a slowing down of production and a curtailment of spending. Come what may, we cannot slow down our pace which is presently much too slow. Every day our children are crippled in segregated schools. Mississippi has a camouflage program under the guise of a building program. However, we must alert our people to the fact that buildings with beautiful fronts may have inferior and empty programs. The school officials have in many cities geared themselves to an athletic program, but place no value on the academic program of the school.

The literary requirement is a basic and fundamental part of the child's education in the new world of "Sputniks" and "Explorers". The child must have a keen and well cultivated mind to cope with the atomic age and racial problems. Integration is our ultimate goal. Therefore, we cannot compromise for attractive buildings, with teachers who labor under duress and cannot teach citizenship nor democracy.

AMOS BROWN

We must commend Amos Brown, President of the Jackson, Mississippi Youth Council and President of the Mississippi State Youth Councils, for his frank and honest expression at the Cleveland, Ohio Convention. According to my source of information, he has refused to retract his statement that Mississippi has some "Uncle Toms" as principals of our Negro schools. Mr. Brown, as an American citizen, is entitled to his freedom of speech under our

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democratic system of government. The members of the W.C.C., K.K.K. and other organizations are not penalized for their abuse of us. Then why should Amos Brown be persecuted for the truth? We must take firm positions on matters such as these that arise in our communities.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Special Commendations

There are numerous branches that are to be commended for their efforts. Among those of special mention is the Laurel, Mississippi Branch, Dr. B. E. Murph, president. The Laurel Branch received an award (a trophy) for the greatest increase in membership among small branches. The Youth Council of Laurel is the largest and most active in the state. Hats off to Dr. Murph who spends a part of each day working for the N.A.A.C.P.

The Gulfport, Mississippi Branch has also presented a challenge to us and small branches across the nation. They received, at the Cleveland, Ohio Convention, an award for the largest number of life membership subscribers of any branch in the nation.

Under the leadership of Dr. Felix Dunn and Dr. B. E. Murph, Gulfport and Laurel have shown us the way. Shall we follow or falter?

STATE BOARD MEETING

The president was unable to attend the last State Board meeting because of illness in the family.

ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE MEETING

The Annual State Conference Meeting will be held Oct 31 - November 2. It will be as big as you make it, or as weak as you support it. Let us make it our biggest and best. Begin now to impress upon people the need for finance to successfully carry on this war against segregation and discrimination.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Gulfport, Mississippi Branch citation will be presented at the meeting of September 30.

Yours for freedom,

C. R. Darden, Jr.

C. R. Darden
President
Mississippi State Conference
of N.A.A.C.P. Branches

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13TH ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE - OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 2
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI