

FROM THE OFFICE OF  
THE PRESIDENT

MISSISSIPPI STATE CONFERENCE  
OF BRANCHES NAACP

NATIONAL BOARD MEETING  
September 14, 1959

There were several very critical matters given top consideration at the September meeting. The topic of juvenile delinquency was fully discussed. We concluded that the NAACP could no longer say to people that our job is confined to legal and political action. A committee was appointed to make a study of the crime wave by juveniles.

The board expressed concern over the slow progress that we are making in political action. We must look to urban areas to proceed with registration to compensate for rural areas where the tension is greatest. The ballot is our most potent weapon in our struggle for freedom. None of us can be satisfied with our privilege to vote until the rest of us share the same privilege. The National Board stands ready to aid financially any branch positively engaged in a registration campaign.

MACK PARKER CASE

The Mack Parker case of Pearl River county, Poplarville, Mississippi seems to be destined for the usual Mississippi technique, a "white wash". None of us can afford to accept this as a "grain of salt" as this proves no one of us are vulnerable to the same Mississippi justice meted out to Parker. When the time is most appropriate we must put on a special campaign to point up the need for Federal Anti-Lynching Bill.

STATE CONFERENCE  
(Nov. 6-7-8)

This is your state conference. It depends on your support and you will determine its final results. We must be willing to sacrifice three (3) days away from our business and professions if we are to obtain these rights. With your cooperation we should make this the biggest and the best. We will have some of the nation's best as consultants and chairmen of workshops. You must prepare now to avail yourself of the opportunity to see and hear these men who are key men in the NAACP. The roster includes the following persons: Mr. Daniel E. Byrd of New Orleans, La., who very probably will give the key note address Friday night; Mr. Kelly Alexander, president North Carolina State Conference NAACP, very probably will be the guest speaker for the Freedom Fund Dinner Saturday night, November 7th; Mr. John Brooks of Richmond, Virginia, National Director of Registration and Voting will be with us throughout the conference as an expert in his field.

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Messrs. Byrd and Alexander will also conduct workshops. Attorney R.B. Sugarmon, Jr., the man who upset Memphis, Tennessee and shook the south, gave his word that he would be the guest speaker for our Sunday Mass Meeting November 8. We urge you with the deepest sincerity to come in Thursday night or be in Jackson, Mississippi Friday morning to begin registration at 8:30 a.m. We cannot afford to have these men come to Jackson, Mississippi and hear regrets from our branches that our freedom workers could not attend. Someone has said that "Liberty is lost when men put bread before freedom". A special program for youth in in the making. Make certain that you have a youth delegation for the conference.

#### MISSISSIPPI ON THE MARCH

The treatment given Clyde Kenard of Hattiesburg, Mississippi who tried to register at S. State Teachers' College is evidence of fear on the part of unscrupulous officials. We must be willing to face arrest and abuse if we are to win the fight for freedom. There will be more arrests, more pressure and stepped-up intimidation. This will have the same results that is now history, it will speed up integration.

Apparently the technique is to bring more intimidation against us. My case is being called up which has lingered since last May. I am scheduled to go back in court Friday, September 25th. This will be County Court trial by jury. The least that I can expect is a conviction which is typical of Mississippi justice for Negroes. The results of the trial will be carried by the Gulf Coast World, a newspaper dedicated to the truth. This is the Negroes' best opportunity to establish a voice for our people. We must support our one and only newspaper, owned and operated by our people. Have no fear about my case; I have never sold my people out, I have never talked one way to the white bosses and another way to my people. My position is our struggle for Freedom, Justice and Equality will remain undaunted.

Freedom our business  
Justice our objective  
Equality our goal

Yours for freedom,  
Mississippi State Conference of  
Branches NAACP



C.R. Darden, Pres.