

Excerpts from
CAMPAIGN LITERATURE, PAUL B. JOHNSON FOR GOVERNOR CAMPAIGN, 1963

MISSISSIPPI REPUBLICANS ENDANGER MISSISSIPPI WITH TWO PARTY SYSTEM

The "overnight" Republicans in Mississippi are playing with political dynamite by advocating a two party system in our state.

These inexperienced, so-called Republicans proudly boast that "they are not bound by any deep-seated taboos and prejudices handed down blindly from past generations" but they never discuss the real dangers of a two party political system in a state like Mississippi with a "black-voting" minority group that represents over 45 per cent of our population.

These self-styled "young men and young women and older people with young ideas" either do not know or they deliberately ignore the facts of life as they exist in Mississippi today.

A DIVISION OF CONSERVATIVE MISSISSIPPIANS INTO TWO POLITICAL CAMPS, as now being attempted by these self-styled Republicans, WOULD GIVE THE BALANCE OF POWER IN MISSISSIPPI TO OUR MINORITY GROUP. This would be the end of our way of life in Mississippi and the peace, tranquillity, law and order we now enjoy in all of our communities would soon come to an awesome end.

MISSISSIPPI HAS ALL THE BENEFITS WITHOUT THE VERY REAL DANGERS

...As Mississippi Democrats we are enjoying all of the so-called "benefits" of this two party system, through our State Democratic primary elections, without exposing the people of Mississippi to the disastrous events and conditions that would surely follow the division of conservative Mississippians into two political camps thus giving the balance of power into the hands of the minority.

Our Mississippi Democratic Party is entirely independent and is free of the influence or domination of any national political party, and it offers an adequate framework for candidates of widely varying views to offer their services to people. Mississippi has no need for a two party system that would divide our people and stretch our political campaigning over many additional months with resulting expense, confusion and disunity.

REPUBLICAN PARTY ALWAYS REJECTS THEIR CONSERVATIVE LEADERS

...The truth is that neither national party is "conservative." Both the National Republican Party and the National Democratic Party are the dedicated enemies of the people of Mississippi. The national leaders of both -- consistently, across the years -- have pursued courses of action which have moved our beloved country ever leftward -- which have threatened our citizens with ever more centralized power at Washington.

The National Republican Party has followed the National Democratic Party like a shadow. Both have moved toward socialism as they catered to organized "have-not" minorities in the heavy populated urban centers, ignoring the great, silent, unorganized majority of decent, responsible citizens in this country...

Neither party as constituted today offers any hope to free men and women who value their independence and their honor. Both parties...if their platforms and their past actions are any guide -- threaten our Mississippi traditions, institutions and segregated way of life.

The Mississippi Democratic Party -- which long ago separated itself from the National Democratic Party, and which has fought consistently everything both national parties stand for -- offers to the citizens of Mississippi and to the troubled white conservative voices in the land...

The Mississippi Democratic Party is not subservient to any national party...Our free electors may vote for any American leader who will espouse the principles in which we believe.

...Let's defeat the National Republican Party's candidates on November 5th by a vote so overwhelming that it will bury forever those "overnight" Republicans who would like to divide our State and hand it over to a minority group.