

PARENTS COMMITTEE OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
NEWSLETTER

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P.O. Box 2212 - Culver City, California 90232

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, October 28, 1964

Time: 8:00 p.m.

at the home of
Mrs. Judy Newman - 1209 Fourth Avenue, Los Angeles 19
RE 5-8276

Here we go again with the final decisions on all the ins-and-outs of incorporation, with consequent tax deductibility for all donations to the Committee. The meeting will define also our purposes and the goals we hope to reach. Decisions will be final and we'll begin to work on projects. Life is certainly complicated -- but interesting. New news on the most recent events in Mississippi will be presented.

STARS IN ACTION:

Mrs. Neodros Bridgeforth, mother of Ron who is now in Mississippi, apparently made one of the most listened-to speeches of anyone at the testimonial dinner for Congressman Augustus Hawkins on October 12th. Reproduced in full below, Mrs. Bridgeforth's statement was the only one mentioned by Congressman Hawkins in his own talk, and resulted in a number of invitations to speak about the Mississippi Freedom Project at meetings of other groups. Said Mrs. Bridgeforth, to the august assemblage of California politicians:

"My son Ron is in Mississippi now, as he was this past summer, as a student worker in the Mississippi Summer Project. He went because he felt he had something to contribute to breaking through the bigotry and fear and hopelessness in that state, which would be for the benefit of all of us. He has run into danger, has been in jail and at times frightened, - but in teaching and helping people to register to vote who never voted before, he's had the greatest satisfaction of his life.

The terror that has been unleashed this summer and fall against the Freedom Movement Workers just indicate how afraid the Mississippi rulers are of the freedom and voting power of the people of their state.

In this struggle no one has been more helpful than Congressman Hawkins. He went to Mississippi and saw for himself. He has alerted the northern public to what he saw; he has urged legislative action and Federal protection and he has shown consistent personal interest in individual volunteers - my son among them.

The Parents Mississippi Freedom Committee, the organization of parents whose children went to Mississippi, is delighted at this opportunity to honor Congressman Augustus Hawkins for what we feel he has done for us, - thereby contributing to the freedom of ALL Americans who love America. May he continue to be able to do so."

The Parents Committee joined with the California Democratic Council and the Californians for Liberal Representation in the reception and meeting for Dr. Aaron Henry, President of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party on Oct. 19. A scroll which was written by Henry Siegel, and prepared by Gabrielle and Klaus Brill, was presented to Dr. Henry at the meeting at the Ambassador Hotel by Mrs. Adele Siegel. It said:

"As parents of sixty participants in Mississippi's historic summer, we salute Dr. Aaron Henry. Twelve volunteers from this area still hold the line in the non-violent freedom struggle.

Our object is to obtain an adequate measure of protection for the civil rights workers at present in Mississippi and the residents of that state who have exposed themselves to reprisals and terrorism

because of the courageous actions they have taken in the struggle for freedom.

Beyond this we support the goal of full political participation by Mississippi Negroes, as exemplified by the Freedom Democratic Party, under the leadership of Dr. Aaron Henry.

We shall endeavor to preserve and consolidate the reservoir of experience we have gained, for the benefit of the future volunteers who commit themselves to serve in the South under envisioned expanded programs designed to speed the full realization of the great American dream of freedom."

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Freedom Singers, folk singers directly from the Southern States, will appear at THE ASHGROVE, 8162 Melrose, nightly from November 3 through 15. All proceeds are to go to the Mississippi Freedom Project. Blocks of tickets for those who wish to go in a party are available from the Hollywood Committee to aid the Mississippi Freedom Project, at HO 6-7106.

ACTION:

Continue those letters and telegrams to the President and the Justice Department on implementation of the Civil Rights Act in Mississippi, and protection for Civil Rights workers in the South, as outlined in the last newsletter. IF YOU SENT ONE -- SEND ANOTHER. AND GET YOUR FRIENDS TO DO SO.

Plan for fund-raising events which the Parents Committee can sponsor, or co-sponsor with other groups. WE NEED MONEY, to support the Freedom movement in Mississippi, and to help our own young people who are doing the work. "Out of the mouths of babes" - - yes; but they have to be fed, and, all too often, bailed out.

SEE YOU WEDNESDAY!