

## MISSISSIPPI FREEDOM LABOR UNION

report from George Shelton, State Chairman

The Spring strike was not a success but it was a gain in the strike because most places in the Delta wages was raised from \$.30 an hour to \$.35 and \$.40 an hour. There were several reasons why the strike was not successful -- one was people were scared they were going to lose a lots because they were not getting support at that time. One other would be that we didn't have enough people from plantations. Most plantations had posted signs on them and we had to slip on and slip off. Then some people were thrown off plantations and had no where to live. We had to buy tents for them, others lights were taken out. Now the strikers are planning for a fall strike. Now we have about 6 county on strike all together, we have about 2 or 300 people on strike and no transportation here to go to other places and see what is going on. We don't have enough money to buy paper to send out news letters so that one place will know what's going on in other places but people are still willing to strike even if it calls for suffering but if we don't have a car in some of these places it will be just as it was before in the spring strike that a lot of the people on the plantations will be missed. We will also have to have a fair amount of food and clothing for that many people. Union people are going to Washington to lobby about the minimum wage bill and to try to get some support from other places such as trying to get an issue of food every month for twelve months a year. There are about 100 union people going up on the 14th of Sept. and for the rest of the Fall some of the people are going to form cooperatives, like sewing coops and leather coops. We are also going to carry people to the employment office from all parts of the state and we will have people working in each office to get news out to other parts of the state and to mail information to the northern contacts that we have. We also have an F.L.U. in Tenn., and Arkansas, North Carolina, Alabama, and Louisiana are interested in the F.L.U., but they are supporting themselves so we don't have to support them. In Tenn. they are planning to strike this fall. They have been trying to start a union in tenn. since June and they have begun trying to get people on strike. Now they call it the T.F.L.U. or the Tenn. Freedom Labor Union. Tribbett are still living in tents and they have 8 families on strike and they don't have enough tents so we are now trying to get the tents from Fayette County, Tenn. and they also have to have food.

Keep Pushing,

George Shelton,  
Chairman, MFLU