

BANK DRIVE WINS PACT FOR HIRING 8,000

A 100-day-long statewide action campaign in California resulted in an agreement between CORE and the Bank of America, world's biggest bank, under which 8,000 Negroes and Mexican-Americans will be hired within the coming year.

Still being negotiated are CORE demands for hiring by the bank of a skilled human relations director to administer the new job program and for a clause stating that the bank will not enter into subcontracts with businesses which discriminate.

"There are two major by-products of the CORE Bank of America project," Sherman Gerke, San Francisco CORE's public relations director, points out in an article in the Sun Reporter. "First is the fact that other banks have 'voluntarily' started hiring Negroes in small numbers. Second is the strengthening of the state Fair Employment Practices Commission. When the bank, in an effort to stall CORE, went to the FEPC, it substantially strengthened the FEPC by involving it in a substantive, affirmative action program."

Twenty-six California chapters of CORE were involved in the 100-day campaign. In many cities throughout the state branches of the bank were the scenes of picketing, sit-ins and coin-ins. The latter is a technique of stalling business by lining-up at tellers' windows to get change. Even as the campaign ended, 11 members of San Diego CORE including the dean of El Cajon's Grossmont Junior College, surrendered to serve one to two-day jail sentences for contempt of an injunction against mass picketing of the Bank of America in that city.

William Bradley, chairman of San Francisco CORE, commented: "It is clear that every bit of progress the bank has made is a direct result of CORE's negotiation and direct action."

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

"No receipt needed: use postage money for the work of CORE." Words to this effect are written increasingly on contribution slips received in the office. The cost of each mailed receipt is 8¢.

Hence CORE, with the approval of its auditors starting November 1, will discontinue sending receipts to persons who contribute by check. Those contributing by cash will continue to receive receipts unless they specify otherwise.

CORE-LATOR

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*A National Organization with affiliated local groups working to abolish
racial discrimination by direct nonviolent methods*

James Farmer, national director

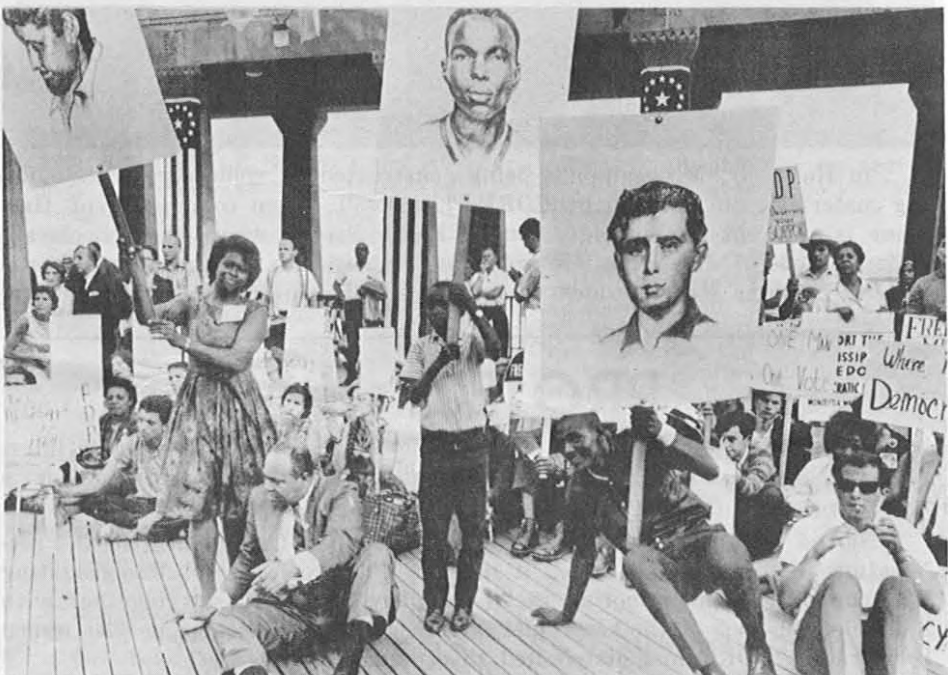
Jim Peck, editor



SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1964

No. 108

VIGIL SUPPORTS FREEDOM DELEGATION



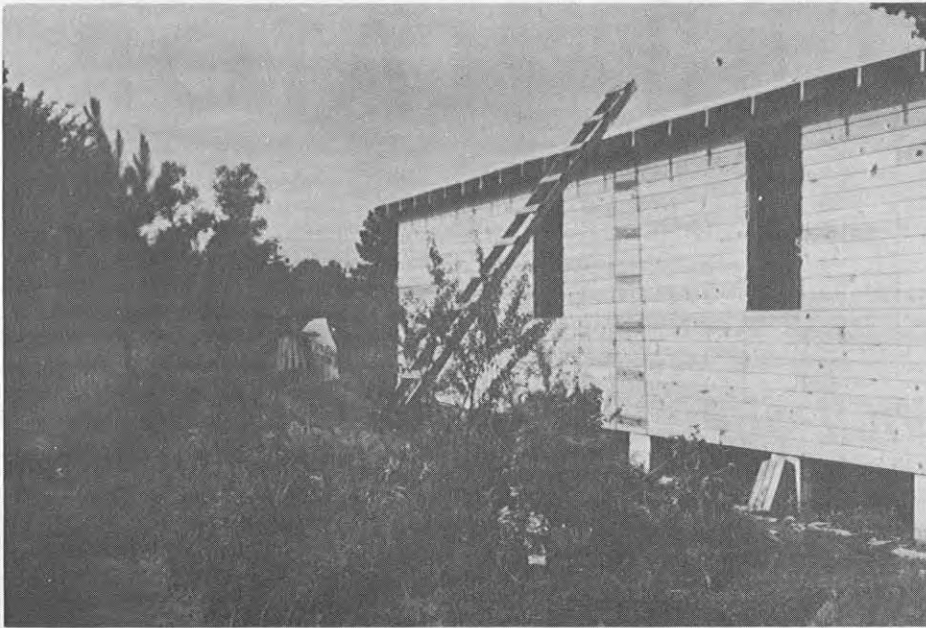
A round-the-clock, silent vigil in support of the Freedom Democratic Party delegation to the Democratic national convention was conducted on the boardwalk in front of Atlantic City's Convention Hall by CORE and SNCC August 24-27. This photo, taken on the first day, shows CORE National Director James Farmer in foreground and large placards bearing portraits of the three civil rights workers killed in Mississippi.

The number of vigilers reached a peak of over 1500 during the second evening when the vigil's silence was broken for a rally at which members of the Freedom delegation, including Aaron Henry and Rev. Edwin King spoke. Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer, a member of the Freedom delegation, led a spirited session of freedom songs.

There were other brief periods of speeches and songs. During a heavy thunder shower, a session of freedom songs started. Having decided against taking shelter, the group decided to sing until the rain stopped. The vigilers alternately stood and sat on the boardwalk throughout the days and nights of the convention in view of thousands of boardwalk strollers. Many eastern CORE groups dispatched buses and cars of participants to Atlantic City.

Throughout the demonstration, the CORE-SNCC sponsoring committee was in consultation with the Freedom delegation and followed their advice as to tactics.

THIS NEW COMMUNITY CENTER . . .



. . . in Harmony, Mississippi is being constructed by volunteers with building material costs donated by CORE. The small Negro community of Harmony is adjacent to Carthage, seat of Leake county, where the schools are under a federal desegregation order and where this fall, Deborah Lewis became the first Negro student to attend a local white school.

PROJECT 101

Asserting that "the problems confronting Negroes are hopelessly inter-related," Syracuse (N.Y.) CORE has initiated a project calling for a "massive assault on these problems at all levels."

Named "Project 101," because "101 years after the Emancipation Proclamation all men are not free," it includes 108 proposals for desegregating the community and promoting racial harmony. The proposals together with a detailed analysis of the key issues, are included in a 42-page booklet issued by Syracuse CORE and distributed to community leaders.

"Although some of the proposals are bold, some expensive and some require considerable adjustment by the whole community, they represent minimal steps for breaking the treadmill cycle in which the Negro in Syracuse is caught," writes Dr. George Wiley, the CORE group's community relations director, in an introduction to the booklet. "They are quite inexpensive when measured against the ghastly alternatives of Harlem and Rochester."

Dr. Wiley chaired the public meeting at which the project was launched officially. Among community leaders who attended were Acting Mayor Roy Simmons, County Executive John Mulroy and several officials of local corporations. The problems were presented first-hand by five residents of the "15th-ward-ghetto." Following the meeting, Dr. Wiley commented: "possibly it was because of the recent riots in nearby Rochester, but for the first time members of the power structure appeared to be, at least, listening to what we are saying."

Of the 108 proposals, the major ones call for construction of at least 500 units of additional low-income housing by public and private interests, revamping of assignment practices toward desegregating public housing, formulation by each major local business of a program bringing the racial composition of its work force in harmony with that of the community, redistricting the elementary and junior high school systems so that no school will be more than 30% Negro by next fall and creation of a civilian review board on police brutality.

DISCOVERY OF DEAD BOY CLIMAXES WEEK OF INTIMIDATION

Discovery by pulp workers on September 10 of the dead body of a 14-year-old Negro boy in the Big Black River climaxed a week marked by threats, arrests and the dynamiting of a white-owned store patronized by Negroes in Canton, Mississippi.

The boy, Herbert Oarsby, who had been wearing a CORE-inscribed T-shirt, was declared missing September 6. The previous day another Negro youth had been observed being forced at gunpoint into a white-driven pickup truck. This aroused suspicions of foul play in Oarsby's case, but his drowning was declared accidental by local officials.

It was in the early hours of September 6 that a dynamite blast wrecked Joe & Barb's grocery store, which is owned by Joe Ferguson, a white man, but which has been patronized by Negroes participating in the 9-month-old boycott of downtown stores. Later in the day FBI agents and sheriffs deputies removed eight sticks of unexploded dynamite from underneath another grocery store patronized by the boycotters. The latter store is owned by George Washington, a Negro.

Describing the damage at Joe & Barb's, CORE Task Force worker George Raymond said: "All the windows were blown out and the street was covered with pieces of block, wood and glass. Much of the merchandise was destroyed."

Later in the day, Raymond along with James Sanders, a CORE volunteer, were arrested for "investigation." That evening, Wilbert Robertson, a local civil rights leader, and seven other Negroes were picked up by police at a downtown cafe. Two days later, William Forsythe, another CORE volunteer, was arrested after accompanying two Negroes to the registrar's office.

During the week parents of two Negro students who had sought to attend the white high school received threats. The mother of Chester Thomas was threatened with eviction by the city auditor who owns the property where the family lives. Another threat came from the city postmaster, James Luder.

A month-long action campaign by Seattle CORE, marked by picketing and shop-ins, ended with a fair employment agreement covering Trade-well supermarkets.

WIN PACT DESPITE PRO-GOLDWATER COUNTERPICKETS

Long Island CORE won a precedent-setting agreement with Vigilant Associates, one of the largest real estate brokers in the area, despite counterpicketing by pro-Goldwater youths carrying placards such as "Keep Niggers Out—Support Your Local KKK" and "I Like Niggers—I Think Everybody Should Own One."

This group counterpicketed during the entire week of picketing by CORE. The picketing started after a CORE test proved discrimination on the part of the realtor. As many as 900 white spectators, most of them supporting the counterpickets, were drawn to the scene where there was a heavy concentration of police. However, up to 20 white residents of Hicksville had the courage to join the CORE picket line.

Describing the counterpicketing group, Newsday, a local paper, reported: "Of 12 anti-CORE pickets questioned, all said they favored Senator Barry Goldwater for President. At times they chanted 'Barry, Barry.' John Judge, 16, of Hicksville, said: 'I like Goldwater because he doesn't like niggers either.'"

Lincoln Lynch, chairman of Long Island CORE, said: "The agreement we won is precedent-setting because it marks the first time a Long Island real estate broker has agreed to take positive action on his own against housing discrimination." Under the agreement, negotiated with the aid of County Attorney Jack Weinstein, the realtor agreed to place advertisements in the Negro press and to use the words "fair housing broker" when advertising in the daily newspapers.

Shopping Center Contract

A week of picketing by Suffolk County CORE resulted in a fair employment agreement with the Gardiner Manor Shopping Center. On one occasion, police dispersed a group of white youths assembled to taunt the pickets.

Under the pact, merchants in the shopping center have agreed to hire at least 35 minority group employees within 60 days, reports Henry Smith, Chairman of Suffolk County CORE. Presently the stores employ only 12 Negroes out of a total of 300.

The agreement is the fifth to be won by the Suffolk County and Long Island CORE groups with major Long Island shopping centers.

* * *

In several cities across the country, Barry Goldwater's campaign appearances have been marked by CORE picket demonstrations.

Inside The Registrar's Office...



...in Quincy, Florida, seat of Gadsden county, is this placard illegally attempting to suggest a paritsan position on persons registering to vote.

But Outside...



... Negroes line up to register—even in rainy weather, as shown in this photo. Despite various forms of intimidation. CORE succeeded in tripling the country's total number of Negro registrants over the summer.

HARASS BLIND MAN WHO GAVE CORE SWIMMING PARTY

Charles Hamill, a 72-year-old, blind retired manufacturer who offered his swimming pool for a fund-raising party for Tucson (Ariz.) CORE, has been harassed in a manner reminiscent of the deep south.

On the eve of the party, he had received several threatening phone calls from persons accusing him of being a "nigger-lover" and "Communist" and warning him to "beware of the dark."

Several days after the party, when his wife was out, his pool was polluted with two gallons of motor oil. Being blind, he was unable to identify the vandals. Commenting on their ac-

And Inside The Jail . . .



... at one point in the campaign were Steve McVoy, a CORE volunteer (at left) and CORE Task Force Worker Stuart Wechsler (at right). McVoy had been beaten over the head by an irate white man outside the registration office. Three days later, Wechsler, while canvassing with two local Negroes, was kidnapped, beaten and arrested. Tommy Smith, a county commissioner and big property owner, struck him across the back with a heavy cane. As Wechsler backed away, Smith instructed the two whites accompanying him to "catch the damn nigger and kill him." They thereupon carried him into Smith's car and drove to the latter's house.

A half hour later, the deputy sheriff arrived and wanted to arrest Wechsler for "trespassing." Smith urged: "Don't do that: just go down the road and when you get back, we'll be finished with him. Better yet, go down the road and don't come back." However, the deputy decided to arrest Wechsler, who was hit again by Smith while being carried from the latter's car into the deputy sheriff's car.

* * *

Completion of "quiet and peaceful transition" to integration in Ocean City, Maryland's biggest seaside resort, has brought a letter of congratulations to Mayor Hugh Cropper from James Griffin, chairman of Baltimore CORE. A program of testing and negotiations by CORE has been in progress for the past three summers.

A Freedom Ride into Oklahoma's 'Little Dixie'

Members of the Oklahoma City and Tulsa CORE groups recently boarded a bus to test compliance with the civil rights law in the southeastern part of the state, which is known as "Little Dixie." They decided to charter a bus rather than go in a 14-car motorcade because the director of the state human rights commission had promised police protection if a single vehicle were used.

Such protection proved helpful particularly in the town of Hugo, which characterizes itself as "the city with a smile." "I saw no smiles," writes Allen Cuthbert, a CORE member, in the Oklahoma Black Dispatch. "As we drove through the downtown sections of Hugo, I estimated from 1,500 to 2,000 people were in the streets, waiting. As the CORE group left the bus and began their various tests, a crowd of hostile whites watched.

"As I walked the streets, talking to people, I somehow got the feeling that Oklahoma City was a billion miles away. I walked into one restaurant to talk to the people in the test group. I heard from the hecklers: 'What is this I smell? Is it a cigar? No, it's a nigger.' The owner said: 'the law says I have to serve niggers, but I don't have to serve the whites with them.' (This test group was interracial.)

"After all eating establishments were tested (seven of them served the testers), we headed for the bus. When we got there we found about 150 Negroes who told us they had been watching it for us. Archibald Hill (chairman of Oklahoma City CORE) told them that what CORE had just done would be of no value if they did not follow through. They promised they would. Several women also made such a promise and CORE has already received their first report."

In the town of Antlers, at the Kiamichi restaurant, which refused service, a crowd of whites surrounded the testers and its spokesman threatened: "You niggers get out of here and take the white trash with you!" One person in the crowd drew a knife and another grabbed the testers' tape recorder. However, the testers were able to leave uninjured.

Despite these incidents, the majority of eating places in the "Little Dixie" area were found to be in compliance with the civil rights law. In Ada, Stonewall and Atoka, the testers were served without incident. At several biased restaurants, testers were told that the establishments were for sale. Complaints were filed against all restaurants which refused service.

Statewide Testing Trips in Missouri

Eleven Missouri restaurants and one motel have been charged with violation of the federal civil rights law following four test trips by St. Louis CORE covering all parts of the state. The teams went north to Hannibal, west to Jefferson City, to the resort area around Bagnell Dam and to the Bootheel. Lucian Richards, chairman of St. Louis CORE, said that a total of 94 establishments had been tested.

First Rights Suit In Arizona

First suit under the U.S. civil rights law in Arizona was filed by Roy Twitty, president of Tucson CORE, against the Truckers' Cafe in Coolidge. When Twitty sought service there on July 4, Mrs. Andrew Blakeman, wife of the owner, told him: "It is not our policy to serve Negroes inside. We will give you coffee to go." In August the restaurant was picketed.

LOUISIANA CANNING FIRM RELENTS—CORE BOYCOTT ENDED

The Princeville Canning Company which had notified 150 Negro farmers, many of them voter registrants, that they would not get contracts for their sweet potatoes this year, has relented.

With the beginning of the harvest, the firm has sent these Negro farmers letters saying: "If you raised any sweet potatoes this summer and would like to sell them, Princeville Canning Company will be glad to purchase from non-contractors as well as contractors."

Commenting on the company's action, CORE Field Secretary Ronnie

Moore said: "Princeville's letter to the farmers without contract is a CORE victory. One factor was the appearance here—at CORE's urging—of William Bay, a Chicago merchant, who expressed desire to buy the farmers' sweet potatoes this year and next."

Another factor was the national CORE boycott of Princeville products, which are sold in supermarkets under the trade names "Royal Prince" and "Jack-O-Lantern." A spokesman for one supermarket chain—Daitch-Shopwell—had met with CORE National Director James Farmer and had

CHANGE HIRING POLICY ON NATION'S TALLEST MONUMENT

On July 14, two members of St. Louis CORE, Richard Daly and Percy Green, climbed 100 feet up the partially completed Gateway Arch, which is destined to be the nation's tallest monument and a symbol of its westward expansion. They remained aloft for four hours.

Upon descending, they were arrested for "trespassing," but their action was the focal point of a St. Louis CORE picketing campaign which lasted through the spring and summer. The campaign recently ended when Johannes Jensen, a top official of the National Park Service, guaranteed that U.S. nondiscrimination requirements would be enforced in awarding future contracts.

The contract for the initial phase of construction, the concrete pouring, had been given to the MacDonald Construction Company, whose hiring policies prompted the CORE protest action. Following an investigation, a spokesman for the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity admitted in early August that his committee was "not completely satisfied" with the MacDonald Construction Company's employment practices.

To avert a repeat performance, Jensen said, future contracts will be awarded on a small-contract basis which will permit an increased number of bidders and will give the government more leeway to bypass a low bidder whose employment policy is dubious.

The Gateway Arch, designed by the late Eero Saarinen, will be 630 feet high when it is completed within the forthcoming year. The arch will be part of the St. Louis Riverfront massive renovation program.

agreed to cease buying Princeville products.

The CORE boycott was ended after Princeville dispatched its letter to the Negro farmers. The company is the only market in this area for sweet potatoes, the main crop and hence the Negro farmers who had been denied their usual annual contracts faced a desperate plight. At present CORE is helping these farmers to form a co-operative.

In this parish of West Feliciana, no Negro had registered to vote from reconstruction days until last October.

LITERATURE LIST

OUR FACES, OUR WORDS, Lillian Smith has compiled a moving document of the participants in the struggle for equal rights. Here, in photographs and monologues, is the living, speaking portrait of the fight for freedom. The faces are those on the picket line, on the sit-in, going to the southern courthouse to vote. The words are direct. Miss Smith, who wrote *Killers of the Dream* and *Strange Fruit*, has lived most of her life in the south and in both her fiction and nonfiction works has recreated "the texture of southern experience out of which hatred for the Negro grows." The publishers, W. W. Norton, are contributing their profits from the sale of this book to CORE.

Hard Cover \$3.75..... Paperback \$1.50..... Limited Autographed Edition \$10.....

BOOKS

KILLERS OF THE DREAM, by Lillian Smith. (W. W. Norton) Examining her own childhood and her growth into awareness of the problem of discrimination, Lillian Smith reveals the deeper meanings of segregation as a symbol and a symptom of the estrangements which have cut man off from himself, his fellow man, his world. \$4.50.

NOBODY KNOWS MY NAME, by James Baldwin. (The Dial Press) The now-famous series of essays by the author, who more than any American author, has exposed the fears of American society. Baldwin says that although the question of color is central in the essays, "the question of color, especially in this country, operates to hide the graver question of the self." \$4.50.

PAMPHLETS

ALL ABOUT CORE, an all-inclusive, pictorial guide to the CORE organization. Describes activities, structure, goals. 10 pages. 25¢ per copy, 5 for \$1, 100 for \$2.50.

THIS IS CORE. Basic capsule leaflet defining CORE. 10¢ per copy, 5 for 25¢, 100 for \$2.50.

CALENDAR OF COERCION. Excerpts of reports from CORE field staff stationed in the south, describing incidents of terrorism in the period from August, 1963 to August, 1964. 15¢ per copy, 25 for \$3.

CRACKING THE COLOR LINE by Jim Peck, 32 pages. Detailed accounts of major action projects of CORE from 1942 to 1962. The background includes all areas of the United States with many photographs. \$1 per copy, 7 for \$5, 100 for \$40, 1,000 for \$350. (Quantity prices postpaid to one address.)

THE RIGHT TO VOTE by James McCain, CORE's Director of Organization, 10 pages. Many photographs with description of lack of voting registration in South Carolina. 35¢ per copy, 25 for \$5. (Quantity prices postpaid to one address.)

CORE RULES FOR ACTION. Basic, capsule leaflet stating how CORE action works. 10¢ per copy, 5 for 25¢, 100 for \$2.50.

WHERE IS DEMOCRACY? Capsule flyer describing CORE's activities. Single copy free, 100 for \$1.

FREEDOM RIDE (Simon & Schuster, foreword by James Baldwin and introduction by Lillian Smith). Written by James Peck, who was so badly beaten by a segregationist mob that he came near death. Not just about the Freedom Rides, but about CORE from its early years of pioneering in nonviolence until this technique for combatting discrimination became nationally known. Autographed copy, \$1.

LET MY PEOPLE GO, by Chief Albert J. Luthuli. (McGraw-Hill) The autobiography of the Nobel Prize winner. Discusses the oppressive conditions of the life of black people under the apartheid government of South Africa. \$5.50.

REPRINTS (Single copies free. 100 for \$1)

CORE GOES SLUMMING (Greater Philadelphia, Sept., '63) The northern campaign against slum conditions. This is the story of action in Philadelphia's slum, Hawthorne Village.

BIRTH OF A VOTER by Bob Adelman (Ebony Magazine, Pan., '64) A CORE voter registration drive. The story of the first Negro to register in a Louisiana Parish in 61 years.

A FACE FOR THE INVISIBLE MAN (Sales Management, Dec. 20, '63) The campaign to integrate advertising.

WHY DIDN'T THEY HIT BACK? by Jahn and June Robbins (Redbook, July, '63) A white segregationist who assaulted Freedom Riders tells why his attitudes were changed and how he came to join the Freedom Movement.

FILMS (Write CORE for details)

FREEDOM RIDE, a moving 24-minute documentary film of the Freedom Rides and those who participated, narrated by Jim Farmer.

LOUISIANA DIARY, a one-hour film, describing a CORE voter registration drive and showing the field staff at work, the hardships they and the Negro community endure to secure the right to vote.

A MORNING FOR JIMMY, a film primarily for late elementary and high school students. Shows discouragement of a Negro child, but how he comes to a decision to remain in school. Half-hour film.

RECORD ALBUMS

SONGS OF THE FREEDOM RIDERS (Dauntless Records, monaural and stereo). Most of the singers here had just been released from jail on CORE's Freedom Highways project. \$3.95 (includes a song booklet with each record).

JAZZ SALUTE TO FREEDOM (Special CORE release). Two 12-inch long-play records. All top-calibre artists such as Miles Davis, J. J. Johnson, Duke Ellington, Cannonball Adderly, etc. Most of the selections are now out-of-stock collector's items. Two disc album for \$5.

BLACK MAN IN AMERICA. An excellent interview with James Baldwin by Studs Terkel of Chicago's WFMT Radio. Released through Credo Records. \$3.50.

MISCELLANEOUS

FREEDOM SONG BOOKLETS 10c

FREEDOM NOW BUTTONS 5c

EQUALITY PINS (=) \$1

SILVER CORE LAPEL PINS \$1

CORE WANTS A FAIR WORLD BUTTON 15c

I AM REGISTERED PIN 2 for 5c

TO: CORE

38 Park Row

New York, New York 10038

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY..... STATE..... ZIP.....

ARREST SHERIFF, DEPUTY, THREE OTHERS

Sheriff Lawrence Rainey, Deputy Sheriff Cecil Price (who arrested the three civil rights workers June 21 prior to their murder), Ex-Sheriff E. G. Barnett and two city policemen—Richard Willis and O. N. Burkes—were arrested on October 3 following their indictment by a federal grand jury in Biloxi. Charged with conspiracy as law officers to deprive Negroes of their constitutional rights, the five were arraigned in Meridian and released on \$1000 to \$2000 bail each.

When the sealed indictments were returned, persons close to the investigation had said they were in connection with last June's triple murder. However, they involve incidents which occurred long before—last January 26 and in October 1962. On the more recent date the sheriff and his deputy are charged with arresting a Negro for drunkenness and beating him over the head with a blackjack so that he required five months hospitalization. In October 1962, all five arrested officers are accused of beating, with leather straps, five Negroes arrested on cow-stealing charges.

CITY HALL SIT-IN WINS BROAD SLUM PROBE

An eight-day, round-the-clock, CORE sit-in at City Hall in which up to 100 persons at a time participated, ended when the City Council's special committee on housing and urban development agreed to a thorough investigation of slum housing. The committee chairman, Willis Gradison, proposed that the City Council's nine members make a personal tour to eyewitness prevailing conditions.

The agreement was reached at a meeting of the special committee held at CORE's request. At the meeting, the building commissioner agreed to start compiling a list of building owners under order to correct defective conditions. Previously only records of the actual buildings were maintained.

Regarding the Standish Apartments, whose rent strike—the first in Cincinnati—had prompted the City Hall sit-in, the safety commissioner admitted that building regulations could have been enforced to the letter of the "law" but argued that this might have meant evictions.

FIRST FREEDOM DAY IN TOWN WHERE RIGHTS WORKERS WERE KILLED

Thirty Negroes lined up at the courthouse on September 14, the First Freedom Day in Philadelphia, Mississippi, where CORE Task Force Workers James Chaney and Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman, a student volunteer, were murdered last June. All 30 succeeded in registering. But Allan Schiffman, a CORE observer, was arrested for "failing to obey a police order."

A week later, six more Negroes came to register but were turned away on grounds that they could not do so while court is in session. A suit has been filed as a consequence and a major county-wide freedom rally, the second to be held, took place October 4.

On the night of September 17, a Choctaw Indian church, which the voter registration workers had planned to visit and the church of Rev. Clint Collier, who has been active in the voter drive, were bombed and totally destroyed. Six days later, 50 Negro students were expelled from school for wearing CORE "Freedom Now" buttons. All but six have been reinstated. Following Freedom Day, the intimidation which marked the first week's operation of the local COFO headquarters in late August was resumed, reports CORE Task Force Worker James Collier.

CORE Task Force Worker Zev Aelony, who a year ago was one of four civil rights workers jailed in Americus, Georgia, for three months under a subsequently voided state insurrection law, was arrested September 14 on a phony auto license charge and severely beaten by six whites in the city jail. He has been working toward formation of a cooperative industry in Americus.

CORELATOR
38 Park Row
New York 38, N. Y.



(This photo shows Collier, facing camera, and CORE Vice Chairman Rudy Lombard, at the site of a burned Negro church.)

That first week was characterized ironically by a staff member as a "comedy of terrors." Each night, after dark, cars filled with insult-shouting whites drove past. The first night a shotgun was leveled at the building. Threats of bombing and burning followed. The number of the newly installed phone already had become known throughout the community.

One night, several carloads of whites displaying pistols and shotguns stopped and the occupants got out and menacingly lounged around the building. Later, an anonymous phone caller threatened: "Your time is running out: the end is tonight." When staff members retire, they post a sentry.

Occasionally Deputy Sheriff Cecil Price drove by the new headquarters with sirens screaming. On one occasion, he served a summons questioning the validity of the lease which COFO had signed. Then, Sheriff Lawrence Rainey ordered them to vacate under threat of arrest on trespassing charges. The rights workers ignored the order.

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