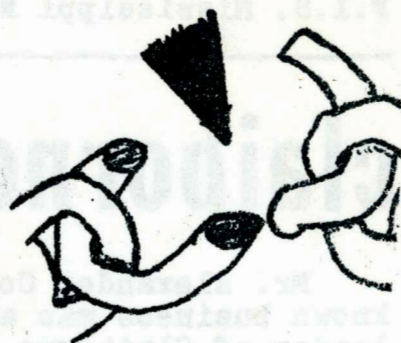




MISSISSIPPI NEWSLETTER



Number Ten - Box 120, Tougaloo, Mississippi 39174 - April 28, 1967

SUNFLOWER gets READY

Moorhead and Sunflower are getting ready for their elections next Tuesday by holding a practice election all day Friday, April 28. Voters will get help in marking their ballots, but only as much help as they will get in the official election.

On Sunday, April 30, a Sunflower County convention will be held at the Church of God in Christ in Moorhead, at 1.P.M.

Everyone is invited to the church for entertainment by the Free Southern Theater after the convention. The Free Southern Theater will be remembered by many for its fine performances of "In White America," "Purlie Victorious," "Waiting for Godot" and other plays in 1965.

Mass rallies will be held in Sunflower and Moorhead Monday evening.

in the Delta

At least six Negroes are running for public office in Coahoma County. They have the support of the Coahoma County Progressive Voters League.

In the 4th District, R.L. Drew will run for supervisor, J.W. Wright for J.P., and Ted Pollard for constable.

Walter Jones will campaign to be State Representative in the Mississippi Legislature.

Rev. Tobe Boykins will run for supervisor in the 3rd district.

on the Coast

Rev. Famous McElhaney of Gulfport has announced he will run for Post No. 7 in Harrison County in the Mississippi House of Representatives.

He filed papers with the circuit clerk on April 7 and will run against at least one white man.

According to Jackson newspapers, Mr. McElhaney will run on the Democratic Party ticket and "will be subject to all the requirements of the Democratic Party of Harrison County and the State of Mississippi."

He said, "I am a Democrat since 1932 and I wouldn't bring the race issue into it."

CLAIBORNE CO.

Mr. Alexander Collins, well-known business man and civic leader of Claiborne County has filed affidavits with the circuit clerk to be a candidate for J.P.

Mr. William Matt Ross, popular grocer and business man, filed for Supervisor in District One. Mr. Ross feels he is well qualified for this position, having many years of experience working with the county and its programs.

Mr. James Gray, young, self-employed mechanic and business man, filed for Supervisor of District 2. Mr. Gray is very much interested in the welfare of the district and the improvements that are possible. He is respected by the people and has their promise of support.

(Thanks to Mr. H.O. Preston for this information.)

NATCHEZ

The mayor and board of aldermen in Natchez recently appointed a Negro man to the city school board.

He is Mr. George F. West, Jr. He will take office on March 1, 1968.

Charles Evers of the NAACP had called for a boycott in Natchez because the mayor and alderman went back on their promise to put a Negro on the school board.

Also in Natchez, a jury could not decide on whether a white man was guilty of killing a Negro man last summer. About 300 Negroes marched through the streets to protest the "mis-trial."

YAZOO CO.

Yazoo County has two candidates for the board of supervisors:

-Arthur Schaffer is running from Beat 2 and Joseph Williams from Beat 4.

The candidates are supported by the Yazoo County Voters League, which holds meetings in about a half dozen communities. The League is now conducting a voter registration campaign to help get its people in office.

Six Negroes and four whites will be elected Monday to the county poverty program's board of directors in Yazoo County.

BOLIVAR COUNTY

Mr. Thomas Moore of Mound Bayou will be a candidate for the Mississippi Senate.

Rev. Sammy Rash of Cleveland will run for the House of Representatives.

Political education workshops are held in many communities around Bolivar County on different nights of the week. The county education committee meets once a week to plan the community meetings.

O.E.O. will give money to two hospitals in Mound Bayou if they will agree to combine into one community hospital. They must have a board of directors that represents the interests of the community.

The hospitals have been run by two fraternal groups, and each one wants to keep control. But it is reported that if they want to be able to continue operating, they will have to take the O.E.O. money and join together.

Uncle Tom Principals Kicked Out

School boycotts in the past two months have gotten rid of three Negro school principals, who were accused of being Uncle Toms.

A.J. Dillon was fired a month ago from Parrish Consolidated School in Hazlehurst. At least 98% of Parrish's 2,400 students stayed out of school for several days. Mr. Dillon was given a position in the white schools.

Last week, after only two days of boycott, J.T. Williams was removed from Broad Street Elementary and High School in Shelby. A petition was given to the Bolivar County Superintendent of Education, the all-white trustee board, and the beat supervisor, asking to have Williams fired. The trustees met with the organizers of the boycott, the Shelby Committee for Better Schools. They also agreed to hire back Mr. Delaney, a teacher who was being fired because of civil rights activity.

M. I. C. N.

The Mississippi Independent Community Newspaper has printed its first edition. It will be published every two weeks and can be bought for ten cents from M.I.C.N., 900 North Parish Street, Jackson, Mississippi.

The paper has stories on Stokeley Carmichael, Alcorn and Jackson State colleges, "Black Man's Share of USA Wealth," and many other things.

In its editorial, the paper says, "When something dirty is done, we believe the people should know about it and that it should not be kept in the dark. ... There are not enough papers written in Mississippi for and by Black people.... Many people have been brainwashed by the white newspapers.... We seek only to present the facts and let the people be their own judges."

Staff of the Mississippi Independent includes Mr. Jesse Harris, Mr. Donald Jackson, Miss Marjorie Hyatt, and Mr. R.L. Bolden, chairman of the board of directors.

A protest committee appealed to the county board of education in Yazoo County and petitions were signed to get rid of the Negro principal at Linwood Attendance Center. The principal has been fired and will be replaced by an instructor from Jackson State College.

Now a fourth school boycott is underway. This one is at all-black East Side High School at Olive Branch (DeSoto County). More than half of the 1,200 students are staying away from class to try to get Rev. R.C. George removed as principal. Students have been picketing the school without any trouble.

PLEASE

Send names & addresses of all candidates as soon as they are known.

We will try to print a complete list on

June 9. | FIS
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39174