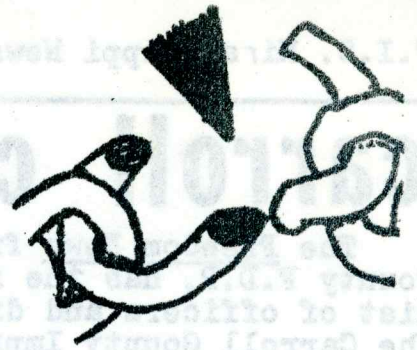




MISSISSIPPI NEWSLETTER



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Grocery Coops: Low Prices

HOLMES COUNTY

The campaigns of black candidates in Holmes County are going along at full speed.

A book is at the printer now that tells about how the county is organized by precincts and beats to inform the people and get out the vote.

The F.D.P. has gotten together the registration figures by beats so they know the kind of strength they will have at the polls.

Here are the figures they have for known Negroes and for whites and unidentified.

	<u>Negroes</u>	<u>white & unknown</u>
Beat 1	2,113	1,734
Beat 2	1,408	1,638
Beat 3	801	919
Beat 4	469	76
Beat 5	964	835
TOTAL	5,761	5,202

They believe that maybe 300 to 500 of the unknowns are Negro.

The Poor People's Corporation, which now includes 12 craft co-ops around the state, will soon be helping people start grocery store co-ops.

By getting together as members of a co-op, poor people will be able to buy good food at lower prices than they pay now.

A meeting will be held to get the grocery co-ops going on Saturday, August 5 at 11 a.m. at the new P.P.C. office, 117 West Church Street, Jackson, Mississippi. That's just around the corner from the Liberty Outlet House store on Farish Street.

People who are interested in forming a grocery co-op in their community can write to Gracie Hawthorne or Mrs. Carolyn Williams, P.P.C., Box 977, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

Welfare/Rights

From what we've heard, there are a lot of Mississippi poor people interested in organizing to get their Welfare Rights. It is reported that buses of people from at least two counties will be among those going to the Welfare Rights Workshop at Mt. Beulah Center, 10 a.m., July 15.

carroll county around the state

The Freedom News from Carroll County F.D.P. has the following list of officers and directors of the Carroll County Improvement Association:

Mr. W.B. Eskridge, chairman
 Rev. McClain, vice chairman
 Mrs. Leola Blackman, secretary
 Mr. Jimmie Brown, treasurer
 Rev. Edgar White, chaplain
 Mr. W.L. Lott, parliamentarian

Also listed is the board of directors for Voter registration:

Beat 2: Charles W. McCain and
 Rev. Edgar White
 Beat 3: Percy Applewhite and
 Dan Pate
 Beat 4: Glenn Duren and W.L. Lott
 Beat 5: Hess Alexander and
 Lester McClain

The Voter Education Project reports 141 new voters registered in the first two weeks of the new registration drive.

Eight students from Carroll County are attending the special summer high school classes at Mary Holmes Junior College in West Point, Miss.

madison co.

Candidates and community leaders spoke at a picnic near Valley View, Madison County, on July 4.

Robert Chinn, candidate for Supervisor in Beat 1, said that the candidates had sent letters to the county election commission, Miss. secretary of state, and John Doar of the U.S. Justice Department requesting Negro poll workers.

Rev. J.S. McRee noted that whites have been bloc-voting all along. He said that Negroes should bloc-vote and vote black. "No whites are going to vote for Black candidates. You have to elect them. Then make them respond to your needs."

W.E. Garrett, president of the local NAACP, said, "I want to talk to my folks and tell them to remember what whites have done to you all this time." He asked Negroes to support him in his campaign for Supervisor of Beat 4.

Sen. James O. Eastland is saying that a report by 6 doctors that "thousands of Mississippi children are slowly dying of hunger and disease" is not true.

The doctors said that at least adequate free food stamps were needed as an emergency measure. They said it seemed that Mississippi whites have been trying to starve Negroes so they would be forced to leave the state. Eastland said that if all Negroes left, he'd leave, too, because Negroes are "an important part" of Mississippi.

Well?

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More good Crossword Puzzles sent in by:

Arthur Hewitt
 Lela Mae Walden
 Janis Loraine Young
 Rev. W.D. Benjamin
 Walter Bruce
 Estella Dorsey

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Mr. Jesse Lee Kennedy is running in the Democratic primary election for Constable of Beat 1 in Forrest County.

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Mr. Tom Griffin, candidate for Beat 4 Supervisor in Wilkinson Co., has lost 2 jobs since he decided to run. One was at a sawmill, and the other was as a school bus driver.

REPORT FROM MISSISSIPPI AFL-CIO

Mr. Claude Ramsay, President of the Mississippi AFL-CIO, spoke at Tougaloo College Wednesday night on "Mississippi Elections and the Labor Movement."

He said that the state AFL-CIO now has about 60,000 members, including 5,000 newly organized workers. He said most of the union strength is in the north-eastern part of the state, in the hills.

The AFL-CIO executive committee has tried to interview all candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor and has sent questionnaires to all candidates for other state and district offices. This was done so the union could decide which candidates represented the workers interests and should be supported by them. Candidates who did not answer the questionnaire or did not meet with the committee, were not considered for union support.

Mr. Ramsay said that he feels the most important races this year are for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, State Superintendent of Education, and the three Highway Commissioners. He said that the AFL-CIO will support Garvin Johnston for Superintendent of Education because his opponent, Boyd Golding, was the White Citizens Council candidate four years ago. He said that W.H. (Shag) Pyron, running for Highway Commissioner in the Southern District, would get union support because he has promised that Negroes would get their fair share of jobs in the state Highway Department.

Mr. Ramsay said that if Barnett, Williams, or Swan win the Democratic primary election, the AFL-CIO will support the Republican candidate, Rubel Phillips. He said that only William Winter and William Waller, of the candidates for Governor, saw fit to meet with the union committee. Both of them thought that it would hurt their campaigns to have the open support of organized labor.

Voters leagues have been organized in many Mississippi counties, Ramsay said, with the help of the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education. Rev. Allen Johnson of Jackson, Jesse Epps of Clarksdale, and Rev. John Perkins of Mendenhall have been working in many communities to get voter registration and voter education programs set up.

He said that the Southern Regional Council of Atlanta, Georgia, had contributed about \$50,000 in the last 6 weeks to voter programs in 25 Mississippi counties.

During the two weeks before the registration deadline, about 800 new voters were added to the rolls in Hinds County by 20 Jackson State College students working in the evenings. The federal registrar kept the office open until 9 p.m. for the special drive, Ramsay said.

Ramsay attended a meeting in Holmes County Tuesday night to support Mrs. Hazel Brannon Smith for the state legislature. (Her printing press was burned late that night. Mrs. Smith has spoken out for a long time, though she is white, for Negro rights and justice in Mississippi. However, she has not given support to the F.D.P., the best organized political group in Holmes County, feeling that they go too far on some issues.)

Ramsay said that he is opposed to the position taken by the Holmes County F.D.P. of not voting at all in primary election. He said that the F.D.P. feels that there are no candidates worth supporting for state-wide office. Ramsay believes that now that Negroes have gotten the vote, they should use it, even if they only have a choice of voting for the "lesser of two evils." It was pointed out the Holmes F.D.P. members also felt it would be hard to get all the voters out twice, and the most important thing is to elect their Black candidates to county offices.