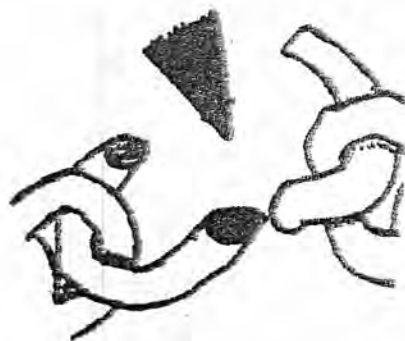




MISSISSIPPI NEWSLETTER



Number Twenty-Four - Box 120, Tougaloo, Mississippi 39174 - August 4, 1967

Do You Know:

- You don't have to vote for any candidate you don't want to vote into office. ^{There have been rumors both ways on this, but the Miss. Attorney General says you only need to vote for candidates you want.}
- You don't have to vote August 8 in order to vote November 7.
- You don't have to vote for the same candidates on August 8 and November 7.
- Each candidate can have 1 poll watcher at every voting place where he's on the ballot.
- Voters who can't read and write should ask for help from the poll official of their choice. Tell him how you want to vote.
- In counties with federal registrars:
 - Illiterate voters should also ask for a federal observer while their ballots are being marked.
 - You can register to vote until Sept. 23 and be able to vote on November 7.
- You can take a marked sample ballot or other list with you when you vote, so you'll mark all the right names.

EDITORIALS

from THE MOVEMENT

JULY 1967



THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT ON OUR SIDE

The government of the United States is not on the side of its non-white citizens; it is not on the side of any white people who are poor, who have been pushed out of the economy, who oppose the Vietnamese War, who work for a wage, or who just want to know what the hell is going on in the world. The government is not of, by, or for us.

We used to think it was. We welcomed federal voter registrars, FBI, troops and Poverty Programs in the South. We looked upon the government as the protector of individual and civil rights. We waited for it to throw its power behind the struggle

against oppression. This help never came. All we got were voting bills that changed nothing, civil rights laws that were not enforced, Johnson mouthing "We shall overcome," and Humphrey putting his arm around Lester Maddox.

Radical programs and action must be based on this understanding. Many people who do not think of themselves as radicals are seeing that when the government promises a Great Society all it delivers is the old brutal, racist, and unhappy one with a new label and strings attached.

country. They are not hidden governments; they are the government. And they are not on our side.

The government did not support the Lowndes County Freedom Organization. When the LCFO organized itself, the government countered with a poverty program calculated to stifle its independence. The people in Lowndes know this

but they want to learn to read and they need medical services. The government is not doing them any favors. It wants to pull their teeth in the process.

The government Job Corps program is not meant to organize young men into pride and power. Young men must learn how to read to qualify for the Army. The government wants them in the Army, by the truckload. It turns them over to private anti-union corporations to brainwash and control.

The Armed Forces of the government inside this country is the Police Department. That's a government submachine gun in that government helicopter that hovers over the Cleveland ghetto at night.

Those are government troops that attacked the peace demonstrators in Los Angeles last month.

It is government troops that attacked the home of Mr. Houser in Prattville and beat John Hulett of the Lowndes County Freedom Organization.

It is government cops who have provoked every riot that has taken place this summer.

It is Bureau of Indian Affairs of the United States government that has systematically denied American Indians any defense against their European conquerors.

Let us stop reacting to the right-wing in this country. The liberals in government are not going to protect us from them. It is the liberal government that is massacring its citizens on ghetto streets and in Vietnam. American liberal domestic policy is Make Money and Keep the Lid On, by any means necessary. The Right only carries that position to its logical conclusion.

Let us not be fooled. There are no doves in the government. Those who oppose the war in Asia support American intervention in the Dominican Republic, the Middle East, Latin America or Europe. Electing a radical to the government is sort of like asking Stokely Carmichael to volunteer for the Army on the grounds that he can organize better inside it.

The men who make money out of this country and its policies mean business. They will not give up any of it, unless forced. They will not be forced by electing more liberals or one radical. They will only be stopped by the chaos, confusion and violence which their own policies will create. ♦

BLACK CANDIDATES

IN THE PRIMARY, AUGUST 8, 1967

Adams County

Beat 2 Constable - Ernest Davis
Beat 4 J.P. - W.S. Scott
Beat 4 Constable - Sandy Nealey
Beat 5 Constable - George Wood
Beat 5 Constable - Thomas Gooseberry

Amite County

State Representative, District 42,
Post 1 - E.W. Steptoe, Sr.

Attala County

Beat 1 Constable - James Carr
Beat 1 J.P. - Dock Drummond

Claiborne County

Sheriff - Calvin Williams
Circuit Clerk - Frederick Carr
Chancery Clerk - Mrs. Geneva Collins
Beat 1 Supervisor - William
Matt Ross
Beat 1 Constable - Leander Monroe
Beat 1 J.P. - Alexander Collins
Beat 2 Supervisor - James Gray
Beat 2 J.P. - L.C. Lipscomb

Coahoma County

State Representative - District 7,
Post 2 - Walter Jones
Beat 2 J.P. - Rev. Dan Ferguson
Beat 3 Supervisor - Rev. Tobe
Boykins
Beat 3 J.P. - Charles Jones
Beat 4 Supervisor - R.L. Drew
Beat 4 J.P. - J.W. Wright
Beat 4 Constable - Ted Pollard

Copiah County

Beat 1 Supervisor - John L. Chase, Sr.
Beat 1 J.P., Post 1 - Rev. Ellis
Blackwell
Beat 1 J.P., Post 2 - Robert Watson
Beat 1 Constable - Houston Collins

Forrest County

Beat 1 Constable - Jesse Lee Kennedy

Harrison County

State Representative, District 51,
Post 7 - Rev. Famous McElhaney

Hinds County

State Representative, District 30,
Post 6 - Jacob L. Reddix
Post 10 - E.H. Tucker
Beat 1 Supervisor - Henry Carter
Beat 1 J.P., Post 1 - Will Lindsey
Beat 4 Supervisor - Jesse Montgomery
Beat 4 Constable, Post 2 - Henry
Hatches

Jefferson County

Sheriff - Will T. Turner
Tax Assessor - William D. Smith
Beat 2 Supervisor - Claudie Bailey
Beat 2 J.P. - Mrs. Martha Lee
Beat 3 Supervisor - Ferd Allen
Beat 3 J.P. - Willie Thompson
Beat 3 Constable - Earlie Lott, Sr.
Beat 5 Supervisor - Sylvester Gaines

Jefferson Davis County

Beat 4 J.P. - Paul Jones Polk
Beat 4 Constable - Victor Hall

Leake County

Beat 5 Constable - L.C. Hudson

Madison County

Circuit Clerk - Fred Singleton
Chancery Clerk - Arthur Tate
Beat 1 Supervisor - Robert Chinn, Jr.
Beat 1 Constable - Frank Williams
Beat 4 Supervisor - W.E. Garrett
Beat 4 J.P., Post 1 - Willie
Thomas Beamon

Marion County

Beat 1 Supervisor - Ezra Palmer
Beat 5 Supervisor - J.D. Daniels

Montgomery County

Beat 1 Supervisor - Rev. Arthur L.
Ward

(continued on page 4)

CANDIDATES

around the state

(continued from page 3)

Marshall County

Superintendent of Education -
Quentell Gipson
Sheriff - Alfred (Skip) Robinson
Lannie Cummings, Jr.
Circuit Clerk - Oscar L. Fant
Coroner - Osborn Bell
Beat 1 Supervisor - Rev. James V.
Murdock
Beat 3 Supervisor - Charlie Polk
Beat 4 Constable - McEwen Walker
Beat 4 J.P., Post 1 - James Malone

Oktibbeha County

Beat 2 Supervisor - Benny Butler

Pike County

Beat 3 Constable - Spruce Guy

Quitman County

Beat 1 J.P. - N.B. Brooks

Simpson County

Beat 1 J.P., Post 2 - Rev. George
W. Logan

Wilkinson County

Sheriff - Mon C. Allen
Superintendent of Education -
Anselm J. Finch
Beat 1 Supervisor - James Jolliff, Jr.
Beat 2 Supervisor - Bill Ferguson
Beat 4 Supervisor - Tom Griffin

TOTALS - 73 Black candidates in primary

State Legislature - 5
Sheriff - 5
Chancery Clerk - 2
Circuit Clerk - 3
Superintendent of Education - 2
Tax Assessor - 1
Coroner - 1
Supervisor - 21
Justice of the Peace - 17
Constable - 16

from 21 counties

The Mississippi Voter Registration and Education League (Aaron Henry, president; Jesse Epps, secretary; Rev. Allan Johnson and Wilson Evans, vice-chairmen; Rev. R.L.T. Smith, treasurer) is announcing by mail and mass meeting its endorsement of William Waller for governor, Roy Black for Lt. Gov., Heber Ladner, Joe Patterson, Boyd Golding (former Citizens Council candidate, who promises jobs for Negroes), and several others. Charles Evers and Claude Ramsay are advisors. About 300 members from 44 counties made the decision last Friday.

About 100 arrests have been made in Hattiesburg of pickets and others working on the boycott. Lawyers for the NAACP will try Monday to get an injunction against police for violating constitutional rights of the demonstrators.

Four West Point men were fined \$100 each for "attempted malicious mischief" when police claimed they found bricks and bottles in their car which were to be used for an illegal purpose. They are out on appeal bond. They were first arrested for "inciting to riot" as they were driving home from trying to meet with the police chief to cool off community tension.

Mississippians United will meet Sunday, Aug. 6 at 1 p.m. at Baptist Grove Church, Sunflower.

Quitman will have 4 Negro poll officials, and Oktibbeha 5.

Independent candidates
must not vote Aug. 8.

→ There are about 50 other Black candidates who will run as Independents in the November General Elections.

Continuing from last week, here are brief reports on the other three candidates for Mississippi Governor, written by a Mississippi college student.

John Bell

John Bell Williams is a lawyer who was Hinds County prosecutor in 1944. In 1946 he was the youngest man ever to be elected to Congress from Miss. Since then, he has served 11 straight terms in the House of Representatives.

When Williams supported Republican Barry Goldwater for President in 1964, the Democratic Party took away his "seniority" rights in Congress. Most of Williams campaign now talks about how he was a martyr for his cause: "I have always fought for right and truth and principle, though, on occasions, I have had to pay dearly for my right to do so." Actually, he got back most of his seniority.

Williams is pretty much the traditional Mississippi conservative, and he is conducting the traditional Mississippi emotional campaign with lots of loud talk but with very little said about the real issues. Aside from saying that Mississippi ought to try to keep its young people in the state, and saying that states' rights are necessary to freedom, and making a few attacks on his opponents, Williams has proposed very little concrete action.

Jimmy Swan

Jimmy Swan has been a well-known country singer and radio personality, but this is his first time being directly involved in state politics.

Swan claims that the real problem the state faces is that of leadership. Politicians, he says, are "not statesmen any longer.... I'd love to be just a little part of what Bilbo was to Mississippi."

He is fairly specific on a number of issues. He promises free, private, segregated schools for every white child in Mississippi. If he is elected governor and does not achieve this goal within one year, he plans to resign.

Swan has also pledged to support any law enforcement officer in the state who arrests or opposes any person (such as "communists, federal agents, federal judges, and long-haired beatniks") who tries to get people to obey the civil rights laws.

Swan has the support of the Ku Klux Klan, and he favors George Wallace for President.

Bill Waller

William Waller is a lawyer and he was an army intelligence officer in the Korean War. He has been district attorney for Hinds, Madison, and Yazoo counties since 1959.

Waller's campaign is centered around increasing the efficiency of the state government, which, he says, is much like big business. He thinks Mississippi taxpayers should receive more for their money. He thinks he can save the state millions of dollars by investing state money in banks (and draw interest), by a state-operated plan for insuring school buildings, etc. He wants a session of the state legislature every year.

Waller was the prosecutor who brought evidence against Byron De La Beckwith for the murder of Medgar Evers. He has called the Klan a "dangerous minority," but he is opposed to Negro boycotts and some leaders.