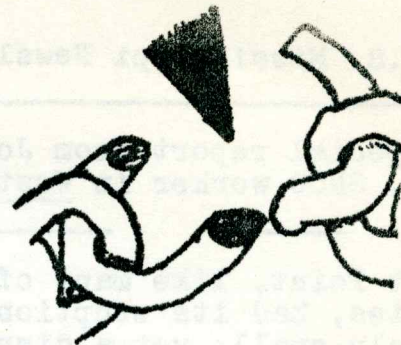




# MISSISSIPPI NEWSLETTER



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## INDEPENDENTS may be OUT if...

### Mississippians United - \$5,000

8 priority counties have received \$625. each to support their independent candidates in the November 7 general election. The steering committee of Mississippians United to Elect Negro Candidates met Tuesday and decided to give the money to campaigns in Sunflower, Madison, Yazoo, Issaquena, Carroll, Bolivar, Holmes, and Hinds counties.

The Associated Press said today that several county election commissions are checking to see if FDP independent candidates can be dis-qualified from running. State law says that no Independent can vote in the primaries. It is reported that a few did vote.

The NAACP has announced that marches to welfare offices are taking place today in Clarksdale, Carthage, Aberdeen, Greenville, Hattiesburg, Port Gibson, McComb, Rolling Fork, Yazoo City, Vicksburg, and Hazlehurst.

## Candidates

A second series of workshops, for first primary winners and independent candidates, will be held soon at Mt Beulah Center near Edwards.

Law enforcement officials (JP's, constables, sheriffs, and coroners) will meet September 22-24.

Policy-making officials (supervisors, clerks, senators, and representatives) will meet September 29 to October 1st.

The workshops will be led by Rev. Harry Bowie, Lawrence Guyot, and Jim Lewis of LCDC. Guest speakers will include lawyer Arthur Kinoy of New York, Ted Seaver of the Community Development Agency, Al Bronstein of LCDC, and Miss Marion Wright of the Inc. Fund.

All expenses will be paid for candidates attending.

### IN COURT

James Jolliff, Jr., recently elected supervisor of Wilkinson County, was bound over to the grand jury Monday on a charge of interfering with an officer. He is free on \$1,500 property bond.

Other cases there, about a half dozen, were continued until Oct. 2.

In Hattiesburg Tuesday, 11 cases were dropped and 3 fines were paid. Arrests had been made in connection with the store and bus boycott.

About 40 cases have been dropped so far. About 59 are still to be tried, all disorderly conduct cases from affidavits sworn by store owners against picketers. A total of 9 people have paid fines.

The 2-month boycott was called off as of Thursday, when 34 new Negro employees were to be on the job.



A special report from John Buffington, SNCC worker in West Point, Miss

West Point, like many of the bigger cities, had its eruption - comparatively small, yet a display of unrest and dissatisfaction due to the lack of jobs, proper recreational facilities, etc.

On the nite of July 29, the police were called to intervene in an argument between two men of the black community. After excessive harrassment from the police, some of the community people became incited with anger and someone in the crowd threw a bottle, breaking a window in one of the police cars. The police then called for reinforcements and lined the streets harassing and intimidating the people even more.

Ike Coleman, one of the West Point SNCC project workers, asked Billy Busby, chief of police, to leave the community, taking the other policemen with him. Busby complied with this.

The next nite local police arrested Warcell Williams (Tex), another West Point project worker, for a ticket he'd received in nearby Aberdeen, Miss. Again policemen were patrolling the black community with guns pointed out of the cars. More windows were broken out of a patrol car by community people. After this the police tried unsuccessfully to break into the Ebony Lounge, where 3 community people had locked themselves in. Ike, later in the nite, went to the station to see where Tex had been taken. Much to his surprise, he was jailed on an inciting to riot charge with a \$5,000 bond. Unrest reigned the remainder of the nite.

Tex was released the next day after his fine was raised by a group of tutors in a tutorial project at Mary Holmes Jr. College. Ike's charge was suddenly changed to one of "an attempt to commit a malicious misdemeanor" with a \$100 fine and \$200 for bond. Three community people were arrested at the same time he was and were given duplicate charges, bonds, fines. All four were released

## NEW CO-OPERATIVE

About 150 Negro farmers in Amite, Wilkinson, Walthall, and Pike counties, Miss., and St. Helena Parish, La., are members of the Miss-Lou Farmers coop. They will be marketing 100 acres of cucumbers for pickling, on contract with a La. firm. They will also sell snap and butter beans on the fresh market in New Orleans.

Mr. Leon Perry is coop president.

Tuesday and tried the following Thursday, at which time the bond for each was paid. The appeal trial is scheduled for October 2, 1967 when each of the four may have to pay the \$100 fines depending on whether or not they win the appeal.

Just as all this confusion started to quiet, a tragedy occurred the following Saturday. George Bess and Henry McFarland, two of the West Point project workers, were drowned when George's car overturned in a creek while rounding a curve on the way from White Station, a little settlement on the edge of West Point. The bodies were discovered the next morning by a lady going to church. I was then notified by Sheriff Strickland.

George Bess, a rising senior at Florida A&M University, a resident of Tallahassee, Florida and a summer project worker, had on 3 occasions been stopped by police, telling him to have the Florida license plates on his Triomphe changed.

Henry McFarland was a prospective freshman at Mary Holmes Jr. College, a local of West Point, and a target for the police especially since last summer when he, along with one of his brother, was provoked into whipping a policeman and another white man in order to defend themselves. This is one reason that the accident aroused suspicion. In addition to that, it was known that Bess was an extremely good driver.



## WELFARE RIGHTS NEWS, continued from next page

services to discover defects in vision, hearing or speech, as well as other illnesses. Local education agencies apply to state departments of education, which receive annual allotment. Such programs are also funded under the Community Action Program. Administering Agency: Mr. John Hughes (see above)

IS MISSISSIPPI SUCH A "POOR STATE"?.....OR IS IT SIMPLY REFUSING TO APPLY FOR MONEY THAT IS AVAILABLE.... AND BEING USED BY OTHER STATES ACROSS THE NATION. TAX MONEY THAT YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO.

WHAT IS NEEDED ARE PEOPLE WHO WILL SPEAK UP LOUD AND CLEAR.... TO LET THE DEPARTMENT OF WELFARE AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION KNOW THAT YOU KNOW THAT MONEY IS AVAILABLE.....AND THAT YOU WANT IT USED IN MISSISSIPPI.

WITHOUT YOUR PRESSURE...AS ORGANIZED GROUPS... MISSISSIPPI IS NOT GOING TO DEVELOP PROGRAMS AND APPLY FOR FUNDS TO MEET YOUR NEEDS.

## around the state

### Marion County News:

I myself work at the poll in first and second primary election. Not more than one half of Negroes went to poll and voted. They are afraid of losing their jobs. I feel if I can help our race at any way or any time let the job go! I already lost my job since March. I yet plan to do all I can to help our people. I only wish more of our Negroes in Marion County would help make things better. The one don't help is the one get jobs in N.Y.C. and other projects. Negroes is not together.

from Mrs. Lucille Dukes

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Dear friends and co-workers:

We in Moss Point is interested in your movement. We are a few peoples that are tired of the way the white power structure running our city here, but no one have the nerve to say so because of a few Toms in the communities here.

All public offices here are held by whites because no Negroes would run. But at the time of the first primary, it was a Negro beaten by the sheriff deputy here. He was hospitalized here for a week and nuthin been done about it. The FBI invested it, but that all. But the ex-sheriff deputy lost to a new

comer in the elections which all Negroes supported the new comer. And he won, so maybe one day we will be free an not afraid.

from William Nettles

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### Montgomery County Report:

We filed a suit against the Montgomery County School System and the county board members was taken to federal court in Oxford. We asked for several agreements and we was granted them all and was given fifteen days to put them in action. Then the school board lawyer resign and turned in his resignation.

Some of the agreements was de-segregation of the Schools system, desegregation of the school buses, also the teachers. Also the Freedom of choice forms be re-mailed to every one in the county so they can pick their choice of School.

We haves F.D.P. meeting each week. from Mitchell Hopkins, chairman and Fannie Mae Hopkins, executive committee

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Citizens of Rosedale, Yazoo City, and Natchez should check on the filing dates for those who want to be candidates in the city elections to be held in 1968.