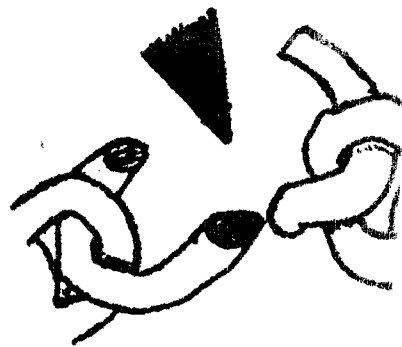




MISSISSIPPI NEWSLETTER



Number Thirty-Three - Box 120, Tougaloo, Miss. 39174 - October 6, 1967

Black Socialist's Answer to System:

"A revolution is necessary in America," according to Paul Boutelle, who spoke Thursday night at Tougaloo College. Mr. Boutelle is a candidate for Vice-President of the United States, sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party. The Political Action Committee invited him to speak at the College, and he is visiting classes there today.

Mr. Boutelle said there must be a Black nationalistic struggle and a class struggle. He agreed with a statement by Stokely Carmichael that the American capitalistic system must be destroyed, and racism and exploitation would be destroyed at the same time.

new bombing

A bomb exploded at 1 A.M. today at the Tougaloo College home of Executive Dean William Bush. No one was injured, but the front bedroom, where their two children were planning to move in, was scattered with glass, and two doors blew off.

Dr. Bush joined the Tougaloo administration this fall. He is a white native of Mississippi. He has worked with the STAR basic education program and also on hospital desegregation. Their house is on the campus but just a few yards from a main public road.

The bomb was either placed or thrown onto a side porch and dug a big hole in the concrete there. Fortunately, it did not damage a water heater just inside, which might have started a fire.

The FBI is investigating.

He pointed out that it is not the White Citizens Councils and other conservatives who are loaning money to racist South Africa. It is the so-called liberals, such as David Rockefeller through his Chase-Mahattan Bank. The people who control the wealth of this country are our real enemies, he said.

Mr. Boutelle said an all-Black political party is needed to run candidates, protest conditions, work for Black control of the economic and political life of Black communities.

He said that a Socialist government would take the large land holdings and houses for the use of those who needed them; it would take over the banks; provide free, secular, high-quality education for everyone; it would review all cases of oppression of Black people. Mr. Boutelle called for victory of the National Liberation Front of Vietnam (the Viet Cong) and for the United States to immediately take all troops out of all other countries in the world.

Mr. Boutelle said some people in MFDP might have learned a lesson after the challenge failed in 1964, but others are still playing games with the racist Democratic Party and they will lose again.

Y. D. s

At the convention of Mississippi Young Democrats last Saturday in Jackson, a majority of those present rejected two resolutions presented by the Millsaps College delegation. One, supported by the Third Congressional District, called for support of all Black candidates in the November 8th election. The other declared support of loyal Democrats in their opposition to the War in Vietnam.

The convention was dominated by Hodding Carter III of Greenville and Jesse Epps of Clarksdale. The two pooled their votes on major issues to capture the convention.

As the convention went on, Carter's and Epp's domination became clear in a move to create a co-chairmanship to run the state-wide organization. The co-chairmanship was to be filled by Epps and Carter. At this point the student delegation from Millsaps College walked out of the convention in protest.

- Reported by Lee Makamson
of Millsaps College

Coop

Sewing machines, cloth, needles, thread, other sewing supplies, and money are needed by about 25 people in Camden (Madison County) who are starting to set up a sewing co-op.

Donations should be sent to Andrew Greene, Box 32, Sharon, Miss.

(We want to remind readers who ask us to write about needs like this that it is your responsibility to write to people who send things to let them know you got them and thank them for their help. A woman in California has helped several groups in Miss. after seeing stories like this, but in some cases she has never heard if her packages arrived.)

A.S.C.S. ballots will be counted again this morning in Holmes County, where two Negro candidates lost by less than a dozen votes.

TO FARMERS from Bob Fitzpatrick of the Lawyers Comm, 233 N Farish St.

Because of heavy rains and cold weather this year, the cotton crop in Miss. is going to be lower than any year since 1921. When the supply is low as it will be this year, the price will rise.

As the supply is used up in the mills, the price will rise even higher because cotton will be so scarce. If a farmer sells his cotton to a buyer right after he picks it this year, he will be losing what could be a bigger profit.

If he waits and sells his cotton in 1968, he will get a much better price because cotton will be so scarce.

How can he keep his cotton off the market and still have money to meet his debts and living expenses. The answer is a federal program administered by A.S.C.S. - the cotton price support loan program. Under this program, cotton farmers take their class cards which show grade, length, and mike reading of their cotton to the ASCS office and use the cotton as collateral for a loan from ASCS.

The ASCS will send the farmer a check which he can spend any way he sees fit. By doing this the farmer gets money and at the same time keeps his cotton off the market.

If in 1968 the price of cotton of the farmer's grade rises higher than the price ASCS paid for it, the farmer can sell his cotton to a buyer. The buyer will pay him the difference between the loan and the market price.

A farmer must sell his cotton before July 31, 1968, or he forfeits the cotton to the ASCS. In some years, the farmer wants to forfeit because the ASCS pays a better price than the buyers do. But this year the buyers should be paying a better price than ASCS. Or if only part of the farmer's cotton has gone up in price, he can sell just that much and forfeit the rest.

If the farmer sells his cotton through a co-op, the co-op may put it under loan and give the farmer the extra check when it is sold later.

around the state

Mr. Alvin Bronstein, director of the Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee (L.C.D.C.) in Jackson wants Mississippians to know that L.C.D.C. is definitely not closing its office here. He said that there will be some staff changes in the next few months, but rumors about the office closing down are not true. Mr. Bronstein was recently admitted to the Mississippi Bar Association, which means he can have all rights to practice law in Mississippi courts. Also recently admitted to the Bar was Mr. William E. Miller II of Jackson, a graduate of the University of Mississippi Law School. He has opened his law office at 1072 Lynch Street in Jackson.

Three justices of the peace said there was "not enough evidence" to hold a white cop in Okolona (Chickasaw County) who killed a handcuffed Negro man early Sunday morning.

A witness said Robert E. Townsend, 26, was arrested by policeman Carl Gordon, 55. He was handcuffed and not told why he was being arrested. The two fought after the cop pushed Townsend toward his car. Gordon, a much larger man, shot Townsend three times. He still could come before a grand jury October 23.

Black people marched in Grenada Tuesday night to protest the beating of two brothers while they were handcuffed at the city hall. One of the brothers was on emergency leave from Vietnam when about six policemen went to their home, looking for a woman who wasn't there, and arrested the two men.

State NAACP president Aaron Henry sent a telegram to Governor Paul Johnson Wednesday. He asked Johnson to "protect the lives and

property of citizens of Mississippi." He mentioned the murder in Okolona, beatings in Grenada, and a murder in Clarksdale last summer. Henry said, "How long some of us will be able to keep violence from becoming the order of the day all over Mississippi is largely dependent upon the action of the governor and the white citizens of Mississippi in this state, when Negroes are abused." At a press conference in Jackson Thursday, Rev. W.R. Sumners asked O.E.O. and the State of Mississippi for funds and technical assistance for a volunteer Headstart program in Southwest Mississippi. The 721-County Community Association has now grown to include the counties of Amite, Pike, Marion, Lincoln, Lawrence, and Walthall. They began their volunteer program May 1, 1967 in McComb with one center and now have about 2,000 children in 43 centers. Rev. Sumners says 20,000 to 25,000 people have been involved. They have applied for government food for the children, but Rev. Sumners said "no helping hand has been offered from within these counties" by the existing poverty program agencies. L.C.C.A. has not formally applied to the county agencies or to O.E.O. Rev. Sumners said about 500 people met and discussed how they didn't have a chance to participate in other poverty programs. Some went to Atlanta to ask for a public hearing, which has never been held. Sumners said that application blanks of poor people have been thrown out by poverty agencies, and that those who work in centers and on boards are "handpicked."

L.C.C.A. has a 26-man board with 11 white members. The whites include the mayor of Osyka, the president of the Tylerstown board of education, a retired sheriff, two road supervisors, and several farmers and dairymen.

The Man who Takes our Men to Fight:

Lt. Gen. Lewis P. Hershey, national director of the Selective Service System (military draft), visited Jackson this week and held a press conference. Later he talked with Gov. Johnson, but no announcements were made after their conversation.

Gen. Hershey said he had not been in any state where the draft system was run as well as it is here. He is now satisfied with it, though he says he is hopeful there will be some change in the all-white draft boards. He is in charge (with the President's approval) of appointing members of local draft boards, but he didn't seem in any hurry to get Negroes on them here in Miss. He said there are now 481 Negroes on draft boards in the U.S., out of about 16,000 local board members.

He said that in the past year 40,000 men were drafted who had been rejected earlier. They got special training and medical treatment to bring them up to military standards. This program was announced last fall as one to "help out the war on poverty." Gen. Hershey said 100,000 men would be drafted each year from now on, who otherwise would have been rejected.

When we asked about how he felt about the way the Vietnam War is conducted (since he drafts the men who go), he said he was not in the State Department and really didn't know much about the war. He did say it was "inconclusive" and had "limited objectives."

One person from each county with a food stamp program will be hired to go around the county and collect complaints and suggestions. If you are interested in such a job, write to Neil Carter, Consumer Marketing Service, 429 Tombigbee St., Jackson, Miss.

OTHER NEWS

A Black man running for Councilman-at-Large in Greenville in Monday's elections, is in the run-off with the man who now is in office. Joseph Bivins got 1,460 votes, and others in the race got 1,666 and 1,354 and 449.

The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals is considering whether elections should be held up in Mississippi because Negroes have not been allowed to serve on county election commissions.

Carl Stokes, a Negro, has won the Democratic nomination for mayor of Cleveland, Ohio.

State Representative A.W. Willis, a Negro running for mayor of Memphis, has apparently lost and will not be in the run-off.

The State Executive Committee of the Miss. Freedom Democratic Party will meet October 7 at 1 P.M. at Mt. Beulah. The meeting is open to all FDP members. A convention will be held next month to get the 1968 National Convention campaign started.

The Hinds County FDP News has started to use the Black Panther as its symbol, instead of the donkey that has been used in the past. Representatives of several community groups approved of this change at a meeting Monday night.

Donald Denson, who works on the News and is chairman of the Committee for Black Youth, says he does not agree with Lawrence Guyot, who says that "Black Power is slogan power." Denson says that most of the people who read the News are teenagers, who go for something like the Black Panther symbol.

He said the Committee is not basically violent, but if violence is forced on them, they would fight.

Denson said they have gotten a couple of changes in the Neighborhood Youth Corps Program here, but the CAP board has been having closed meetings. He feels that a majority on the CAP board should be Negro.