

MISSISSIPPI FREE PRESS

"The Truth Shall Make You Free"

Volume One — Number Twenty-One

Jackson, Mississippi — Saturday, May 5, 1962

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Human Relations Council Formed In State

Beaten Students Ask Protests To State And United States Officials

Talladega, Alabama — The Social Action Committee of Talladega College has asked citizens throughout the United States to protest the beating and gassing of numerous students by police April 25-26.

The student organization urged words and letters to the Department of Justice in Washington, D. C. and to the Alabama Safety Commission in Montgomery, Alabama.

A mass beating by state and city police took place April 26 when 200 students began a march downtown to protest the gassing, beating and jailing of several others the night before.

Civilians had beaten one student severely and thrown mustard gas on two others. A hoodlum slashed the tires on the automobile of a sympathizer while a policeman looked on. Four women students were over come by tear gas while picketing a drugstore.

Six students were arrested while picketing another drug store where four of them had previously been arrested for sitting in. These four were later fined \$100 each and their cases are being appealed.

The protest marchers were met two blocks from the college by 40 to 50 state and city police armed with fire hoses, clubs, and tear gas. City Counsel Byron Boyett was also there.

Boyett warned the marchers that they were violating the law because they had no parade permit. When the students insisted on continuing their protest, the police attacked with clubs.

One student who was injured said the police made every effort to strike young men in the groin with their clubs. The students sang throughout and did not strike back.

Finally they were driven back to the college gate, where the police stopped beating them. Many of the victims not only had severe bruises but also cuts inflicted by some sharp instrument.

Local Sorority Plans May Week Celebration

The Jackson Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. invites the public to attend its May Week celebration.

Speakers for the occasion will be Mrs. Claire C. Harvey, Attorney Carole Hall and Mr. V. R. Collier.

"Intensifying Social Action in the Community" is the theme of the program which will be held in the Pratt Memorial Methodist Church, Sunday May 6th at 4:00 p. m.

The Negro race is struggling for recognition as of human status. The white race having benefitted economically from the present status objects strenuously.

Successful citizenship is the practice of good relationship, between and among people or citizens.

Clarksdale Loses \$7,000. In Taxes In Two Month Period

City Officials Blame Parking Tickets; FC Credit Boycotts

Clarksdale, Miss., May 1, 1962.

City officials in Clarksdale admitted Friday, April 27 that sales tax anticipated for the past two months in Clarksdale is some seven thousand dollars off from what was anticipated. The reason given by the city is the continuing practice of giving parking tickets to our town shoppers. The Coahoma County Federated Council of organizations, the organization pushing the boycotting of downtown merchants until they agree to employ Negroes above the menial level and use courtesy titles when addressing us, have a different version as to the reason for this lag. This seven thousand dollars in tax money is the one cent (1c) tax due the city. The amount spent in total dollars representing seven thousand dollars in tax will be in the seven hundred thousand dollar class of total business that was done some place else during the past two months other than in Clarksdale.

With the closing of three long established firms, The Fowler Cigar and Tobacco Company that did a good business with Negro stores in the outlying area, The Bings Nations Foodstore and the Smart Shop largely frequented by Negroes we hope will suggest a change of pattern of the stores still in operation. There are more empty buildings in downtown Clarksdale than any of the oldtimers remember seeing in history.

The Federated Council of Organizations which holds its mass meetings every Wednesday night, every month tries to get a conference with the downtown merchants to resolve the differences. To date only a few have agreed to talk about the problem, even fewer have agreed to our request, until the downtown merchants agree to treat us fair, they needn't look for us over there.

Three NAACP leaders are still under jail sentence of six months and \$500.00 fines, yet they and the movement goes on.

ANNUAL PROGRAM OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO LEADERSHIP MAY 13

On Sunday, May 13, the Annual Program of the Regional Council of Negro Leadership will be held in Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

Workshops in all areas of Civil Rights will be conducted. Rev. Merrill Winston Lindsey will speak at 8:00 p. m., at the Bethel AME Church.

Respect For Sandra Holderfield

We are in profound sympathy with you, your relatives and friends. We never knew Sandra, but we are extending our respects because she was human, and above all she was trying, what we (Negroes) have attempted for so very long, to extend a helping hand or brotherly-love to the unappreciative.

We are sure you have never placed any trust in a Negro, probably you were advised from birth not to, but don't you think it is getting quite ridiculous when you can't even trust your own?

In the newspaper, they portrayed Slyter of being from every state except that of which he really is, Mississippi. Deep within they knew only a southern small minded white man could commit such a brutal inhuman crime as that. Not a Negro; take the Emmet Till case, the Parker case, the cruel treatment of the Freedom Riders; the release of police dogs and inhuman beatings from policemen on innocent people the shooting of Corporal Duckworth and now Sandra. O God, what will your people think of next?

No, Slyter is not insane, but very sane with the concept that he can do what he pleases even if it is to his own.

Will your people, strong supporters of what's right, as claimed, convict Slyter for your sake, or will they attempt to convince the (Negroes) that a white man could not be that cruel and let him go, with hopes that he was Negro?

Oh, well I am sure they will find something to convict him of, maybe the breach of peace or disorderly conduct or just ignorance, it's the law, is it not?

If he was a Negro, would it matter to them whether or not he was sane or insane? Would he be given a chance to plea not guilty, even if he was not?

Again we extend our sympathy.

Sincerely,

Negro Vote Increase Noted In Florida

Tallahassee, Florida — The number of Negroes registered to vote in Florida shows an increase of 19,329 over 1960 and now totals 182,456. Florida's Secretary of State reported this week.

Significant gains were made in cities and counties where local units of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People conducted registration drives. These include the cities of Tampa, Jacksonville, Miami, Orlando and West Palm Beach and Pinellas and Lee Counties.

Negro registration in Pinellas County site of St. Petersburg and Clearwater, was up 43 per cent, from 4,955 to 7,000. NAACP Field Secretary Robert W. Saunders reports. In Tampa where the NAACP also conducted an intensive drive there was also a 43 per cent increase, from 11,277 to 16,175. The increase in Lee County was more than 50 per cent, from 1,147 to 1,821.

Other significant increases were registered in Jacksonville — 23,513 to 26,374; Miami — 22,356 to 30,519; Orlando — 1,366 to 4,326; and West Palm Beach — 6,577 to 8,634.

The gains were made, Mr. Saunders said despite the loss of some 2,000 Negro voters who, lured to move by public developments, failed to register their new addresses. Also there were losses due to failure to vote in at least one major election during a two-year period as required by law.

Registration opens in May and the NAACP state organization has formulated plans to increase all its local units in intensified drives to add at least

(Continued From Page Three)

U. S. Gov't. Rejects Segregated Training School Apprentices

The United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training is advising its St. Louis, Missouri, staff it will no longer register apprenticeship programs using the David Ranken Jr. School of Mechanical Trades for related instruction classes. In addition, registration will be withdrawn from apprenticeship programs which continue to send apprentices to the school after the current semester. Withdrawal of registration means that apprentices studying at the school will be disqualified from working on construction projects for which the Secretary of Labor predetermines prevailing wages.

Reason for this action is that the David Ranken School denies the use of its educational facilities to all except male Caucasians. An investigation revealed, Edw. E. Goshen, Director of the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, said, that Negroes are banned from attending the school under conditions set down by the founder, David Ranken, Jr. These rules have been in effect since the privately-endowed, nonprofit institution was founded.

"The same withdrawal of registration will apply to apprenticeship programs using segregated schools in other parts of the country," Mr. Goshen said. "When trained manpower is so necessary to our economy, we cannot afford to withhold training opportunities from any segment of our population. Minority groups must be given the advantage of education and

(Continued on Page Three)

Understanding, Social Justice Is Group's Aim

Sixty citizens of the state took what is hoped will be a long step forward this week when they organized the Mississippi Council On Human Relations.

The purpose of the Mississippi Council, as formally adopted, is to work toward understanding and better relations between white and Negro races in the state and for social justice within Judeo-Christian concepts, based on the belief that all men are of equal worth in the sight of God.

Every area of the state, from Clarksdale in the Delta to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, was represented in the group of men and women, white and Negro, which gathered by invitation on the campus of Tougaloo Southern Christian College near Jackson Thursday afternoon, May 3, in a three-hour organizational meeting marked by harmony and accord.

Dr. A. D. Beittel, white president of Tougaloo, a Negro church-owned college, was elected president of the Council. He was not present at the meeting Thursday, being in Washington at the time. His consent to serve in the position of president was given Thursday night by telephone.

Because of Dr. Beittel's absence, the list of officers elected by the Council was not released to the press until Friday.

They are Dr. Beittel, president; three regional vice presidents, Bishop Joseph Brunini, Jackson; Dr. D. I. Horn, Jr., West Point, and Rabbi Charles Mantinband, Bettendorf; Mrs. Lillian Rogers Johnson, Clarksdale, secretary; E. S. Sanders, Jackson, treasurer; members of the Executive Committee, Rev. Henry Clay of Laurel, Aaron Henry of Clarksdale and Mrs. Willis L. Schutt, Jackson.

Purpose Declared

The declaration of purpose formally adopted by the group was:

Believing that all men are of equal worth in the sight of God, and drawing our inspiration and guidance from the Judeo-Christian continuity of prophetic witness for social justice, and desiring to support in the State of Mississippi those objectives in this direction which elsewhere within our nation have won general recognition and acceptance, we hereby propose to form in Mississippi an organization to be known as The Mississippi Council On Human Relations.

Positive Approach

Stressing the positive approach to be used by the Mississippi Council in an effort to better human relations in the state, the organizational group formally adopted support of the following:

1. The traditional freedom of speech including its classroom counterpart of academic freedom for all teachers.

2. The basic freedom of assembly in which men who be-

(Continued On Page Two)

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Voluntary Segregation Urged By Judge Mize

On April 26, Judge Sidney Mize declared that the segregation signs were not unconstitutional. The Judge based his concept on the belief that it is legal if both races, the Judge insinuates, agree to practice voluntary segregation.

The Judge's argument, means in other words, that we (Negroes) may continue to isolate ourselves if we so desire. How nice of you Judge, but it just so happens that we have not endeavored to voluntarily practice segregation, we are not voluntarily practicing it now and we do not intend to practice it in the future.

Are we going to let the Judge, supposedly a literate man, yet as small minded as Mrs. B. J. Gaillot, encourage us to practice voluntary segregation?

I pity the Judges' sense of humor, but I admire his stand for injustice and ignorance. However, his idea of voluntary segregation would not be so bad if only the city policeman had as much sense as the dogs and jump when commanded or when there is a legal reason. What the Judge has not considered is that, there are too many small minded people, who want a big name like Judge, boss or Miss Ann, that are looking for ways of obtaining them. Mrs. Gaillot the segregationist in New Orleans used her eighth grade education to inform Archbishop Joseph F. Rummell, who earned a Ph.D Degree in Theology in 1903, before she was born that the Bible demands, segregation. Kenneth Slyter, the killer of Sandra Holderfield, used a tool to beat his victim to death and then ran over her dead body with his car in order to secure his victory. Five hundred gathered to hear, ten gallon Leander Periz, recently excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church, display his ignorance in order to change his name. No Judge, with those cases and many others like them I am inclined to believe they would not know what voluntary segregation means, so it is best we not practice it. Would I be safe if I did not wish to maintain the practice? Of would Captain Ray move the small minders, Ask him—.

Pregnant Freedom Fighter Surrenders

Jackson — On Friday, April 27, Mrs. Dianne Bevel, a participant in the sit-in movements, informed the press that she was going to surrender herself to the authorities on April 28, and serve her two years. Mrs. Bevel declared that her attorney had informed her that her case was being appealed again and that she refused the appeal, because, she continued, "I have finally decided to refuse to cooperate with or participate in one of the most corrupt and decayed institutions in existence — the Mississippi Court. The so-called courts of justice in this state not only do not try to promote justice, but are used as tools to oppress men and to defile human worth."

"The courts themselves segregate," Mrs. Bevel went on to say "when they attest to a belief that Negroes are refused the right to serve on the juries. How can a court pass judgment on a Negro or an issue of human rights when they deny them before the trial begins?"

Instead of using laws involving the legality of segregation she said, the system hides behind charges of disorderly conduct, trespasses, breach of peace, contribution to delinquency, etc.

The charges are unjust and I have not contributed to anyone's delinquency. I would not sit through another so-called trial. I shall make a moral witness for the next two years against the injustices perpetrated against people who believe in freedom.

Mrs. Bevel continued to say, I do not want to go to jail. I want to live with my husband. I want to take care of my child, (expected in September) for the first two years of its life. But, I cannot be a slave, and I want my child to be a free man or woman. I hope that God will give his black people in the Southern section of America the grace to become convinced of

Human Relations—

(Continued from Page One)

lieve in democratic institutions may meet together without anxiety.

3. Absolute impartiality as to race in the enforcement of law by police and courts and in the selection of jury members.

4. The application of one set of requirements in one manner to all individuals who seek registration for voting, regardless of race.

5. Employment in industry and agriculture on the basis of merit.

6. Wise compliance with the spirit of the Supreme Court decision of 1954 within the living context of the situation in Mississippi through:

a. Voluntary removal of state and local laws enforcing segregation.

b. Prompt acceptance of qualified Negro applicants on the part of colleges and graduate schools.

c. Initiation on the part of men of good will of both races within local communities of plans for compliance in the lower schools in advance of compulsory action by federal courts.

d. Immediate representation by qualified Negroes on local and state boards of education where these posts are appointive.

There are many differences among people that make openness for discrimination which even in the most just relationship make unequal conditions. There is the difference between men and short men, between men and women, between tall black men and white men, between Methodists and Baptists, but man's noblest instinct is that these differences whether avoidable or not should in no way react to the personality or economical injury of the person.

their own worth dignity, and may be help us to suffer without hate, but in love.

Thoughts On The Mississippi Free Press

By J. R. SALTER

The brutal and senseless slaying of Corporal Roman Duckworth — a very highly regarded Negro GI and 27 year old father of six children — by a Taylorville, Mississippi white officer three weeks ago indicated, more clearly than most happenings in the last several months, the existence of the poisonously animalistic racist attitude and practice which pervades the mentalities of most white Mississippians and which is strangling the entire state.

Something else was indicated by the Duckworth slaying: the dishonesty of the vast majority of white Mississippi newspapers — including all of the major ones. The Duckworth killing received little publicity indeed in any if the state's white newspapers and when it was reluctantly mentioned, every story gave most of the space to quotations by Taylorville whites who were desperately seeking to cover the tracks of the officer — a whitewashing maneuver which could only be accomplished, as it was, by slandering and smearing — in a totally foundationless fashion — the murdered man.

Only the newspaper that you now hold in your hand — the MISSISSIPPI FREE PRESS — covered the Duckworth killing in an inclusive fashion. Using well written and up-to-date news stories and editorials, supplemented by dramatic photographs, this little newspaper took the Duckworth story out to the people.

The sorry nature of most of Mississippi's white newspapers — or what pass for newspapers — is not unknown by any means to the Negro residents of the state, although one is tempted to feel that, without question, nearly all of the white population has been so thoroughly brainwashed on this and other subjects that their minds are far from being clear. Not only do the greatest majority of the state's papers avoid printing any news which would reflect unfavorably upon white-held attitudes of prejudice and white-initiated acts of discrimination against Negroes — but every technique of censorship, playing-down, and often outright exclusion is utilized to avoid printing anything which would reflect favorably upon the Negro people. And, certainly, nearly all of these white Mississippi papers carry — some in a comparatively sophisticated way and most in a crude and primitive fashion — direct and overt campaigns against the Negro as a Negro. At times, this is spewed forth as chit-chat anti-Negro jokes, sometimes as lurid "Negro crime" stories drawn from all parts of the nation and world (the validity of which can often be questioned but rarely is by white readers), frequently as quick pseudo-intellectual editorial "studies" or alleged Negro "inferiority," — and always as attacks at Negro attempts to achieve equality with whites. One may as well go on to say the greatest majority of white newspapers in the states adjoining Mississippi — publications often sold on Mississippi newsstands — differ very little from the Magnolia State brethren. And the other white-owned and white-operated mass media — radio stations and TV — although occasionally not quite so rabid as the press, follow essentially the same basic pattern.

It is precisely because of this racist throttle-hold on the mass media of Mississippi — particularly in the newspaper realm — that Negro leaders in the state, and a few liberal whites as well, combined forces just before the beginning of Christmas, 1961, to launch the MISSISSIPPI FREE PRESS: the first liberal Negro

social action newspaper, in the history of the unhappy state.

Within a very short time, the FREE PRESS has established itself as the state's only call-all-the-shots-as-we-see'm newspaper — a publication which, as in the Duckworth affair, gives sound coverage and interpretation to Mississippi civil rights matters. It searches out and proposes constructive solutions to the monumental social, economic and political problems which plague Mississippi. It gives much-needed publicity and support to the democratic projects of the state, among which are: NAACP rallies, membership drives, and voter-registration campaigns; Student Non-Violent boycotts; the Congressional campaigns of the Rev. R. L. T. Smith and the Rev. Merrill Winson Lindsey — the first Negroes to run for major political office in Mississippi since the Reconstruction. And the FREE PRESS, without question, serves as the major communication link between the embattled Mississippi — its arrival on the streets of Jackson and in the small cities and rural communities throughout the state is a highlight of Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings. Its staff is fiercely loyal to it — and rightfully so — and, what is most important, its support — reader-wise — is growing rapidly.

Some time ago, this writer sent off a number of FREE PRESS copies to friends of his who are teaching in northern colleges and universities. Within a short space of time, letters came back praising the publication and asking for more. "Keep those FREE PRESS papers coming right along," wrote one professor. "It's a first-rate help in my classes." Another individual, also asking for additional copies, pointed out that the FREE PRESS news is "hot from the war zone" and indicated that his copies were making the rounds of his faculty colleagues as well as his students. These and others now have regular subscriptions to the paper. And then, not too long ago, we sent letters to a number of liberal secular and religious publications throughout the country — informing them of the existence of the FREE PRESS. Right away, letters came back — indicating wholehearted approval of this Mississippi venture into honest and democratic journalism. They also, we might add, indicated that the out-of-state subscription rate will be increasing forthwith in quite a healthy fashion.

This is indeed all good news. The FREE PRESS is still under attack by the segregationist elements — newsboys have been harassed by police, the printer has been harassed by the White Citizens' Councils, and the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission (secret police) continue to float around the corners — and the paper can use all of the moral support it can get. Then too, like any newspaper faced with heavy operating expenses, subscriptions and financial contributions are most welcome. And it is mighty heartening to learn that the FREE PRESS message is fast taking root in other sections of the United States.

But the major purpose of the MISSISSIPPI FREE PRESS is to reach the Negro people of the state of Mississippi — and those white people who are open to long overdue changes in their patterns of thinking and behavior. And, in this, the newspaper is definitely succeeding — step by step. But there are still many Negro people in the state — indeed, right in Jackson itself — who do not yet subscribe or otherwise purchase and read the paper. And, for this

failure to do so, there is absolutely no excuse. I'm getting long alright ain't worried bout another um eaten turn north chops to heck with my brother, I'm the big cheese in this town. I'm worried about saving face. I help "Ole boss" keep my people down that is, keeping the N in his place. I am a big fish in this pond. It's a cinch when I go fighting I help to keep my people down, and that keeps me in my position. Invest now in the future of Mississippi — Plant more pine trees today!

Lindsey For Congress Rally Held On Friday At Holly Springs

Rev. Merrill W. Lindsey addressed a Lindsey for Congress Rally at Holly Springs, Miss., Friday night April 27th. The rally lasted from 8 p. m. to 10 p. m.

Mr. Lindsey spoke to an integrated audience in the Asbury Methodist Church.

Appearing on the program was Professor S. T. Nero, Advisory Committeeman from Marshall County who chaired the program; Aaron E. Henry, Campaign Manager and the Rust College Singers who supplied the music.

In the address Rev. Lindsey raised the following issues:

1. Pledged unqualified allegiance to the present Kennedy Administration.

2. On the question of Foreign Policy, Lindsey said our course must be geared to the Christian Ethic of Brotherhood. "Give me a Democracy that works in America, and I will deliver to you two thirds of the worlds population on the side of the United States in a cold or hot war."

3. The third issue raised by Lindsey was the plight of the small farmer in agriculture. He said the income of the farmer in the second congressional district is too low and his hours are too



SPEAKS AT McCOMB — Mrs. Ruby Hurley, South East Regional Secretary of NAACP will be the featured speaker Sunday, May 6, 1962 at 3:00 p. m. at an NAACP rally in McComb, Miss. The purpose of the meeting is to urge Negro citizens in the area to become more active in Political affairs by registering and voting.

long. A way must be found to increase his income and shorten his working day which now ranges from twelve to sixteen hours a day. The only reference made to either of the other two candidates in the second Congressional District was in the area of Voting Rights. Lindsey said that his former fellow citizen, referring to Representative Frank Smith, while he and Lindsey both lived in Greenwood, had the responsibility and the duty as the chief politician of the former third congressional district to speak out for the rights of all citizens to become qualified voters. He never raised his voice in our defense and by his own admission in an advertisement appearing in the South Reporter, published in Holly Springs, Mr. Smith never missed a vote on Civil Rights. His every vote on Civil Rights was against Civil Rights and consequently against you and me.

Lindsey closed with a caution that all Americans should unite and fight against all things that are detrimental to American Democracy. He promised to use his influence to bring about a condition wherein all Americans could walk together down the Avenue of Freedom in full respect and dignity.

A human worthiness can only be measured by the performance of the individual

CATHING'S GROCERY
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U. S. Government—

(Continued from Page One)

training, not only to raise their income levels, but to demonstrate our belief in equal opportunity to all nations."

A complaint alleging segregation and discrimination in related instruction programs for apprentices at the Ranken school was filed with Assistant Secretary of Labor Jerry R. Holleman early in April by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The telegram was signed by Arthur J. Kennedy, chairman of the Labor and Industry Committee of the St. Louis NAACP, and by Mrs. Margaret Bush Wilson, President of the St. Louis Branch. They said they wished to recall Mr. Holleman's statement in St. Louis during the White House Regional Conference that if racial segregation and discrimination were shown in federally approved apprenticeship training programs, with drawal of registration by the Department of Labor would be ordered immediately.

Negro Vote—

(Continued from Page One)

another 50,000 Negro voters to the polls by the end of the year.

Negro voters in the state now amount to more than ten per cent of all Florida voters. Of the 132,456 Negro voters, 14,664 are registered as Republicans. There is a total of 1,458,618 white voters, including 329,077 Republicans.

JENKINS GULF SERVICE
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Charleston Youths Continue Picketing

Charleston, South Carolina — The Charleston NAACP Branch and Youth Council closed its fifth consecutive week of picketing of Charleston's King Street stores at the turn of the Easter weekend. The Rev. Benjamin J. Glover, astute President of the Charleston NAACP Branch when questioned as to the duration of the picketing of King Street stores replied, "when lunch counter service is integrated and when merit is the basis for employment and not color if it takes until Easter 1972."

At the beginning of Easter weekend Delbert L. Woods, Chairman of the Labor and Industry Committee of the Charleston Branch of NAACP and coordinator of the current no-buying strike indicated that picketing and negotiations have begun paying off. Mr. Woods reports that South Carolina Electric and Gas Company which holds the franchise for city bus operation in the city-by-the-sea has employed two full time bus drivers of color, one of the larger Piggly Wiggly stores hired a Negro check-out clerk, Kaybee's Department store, two sales clerks and Moskins Credit Clothing, one sales clerk. Other merchants have begun to seek conferences with Charleston's NAACP leadership to get a briefing on surrender terms.

NAACP leadership in Charleston admit that gains made so far are not commensurate with the sacrifice of time, energy and shoe leather the pickets have expended, nevertheless they vow to press their claim for dignity on King Street with dogged determination.

NAACP Youth Council members deployed in the vicinity of picket lines maintain a "Judas list" and a snapshot gallery of "uncles and aunts" who cross picket lines. These are shared

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with the public at the weekly Mass Meetings.

It is noteworthy that King Street picketing has not been marred by a single act of violence since its inception although as many as 100 pickets have been on duty at the same time. The closest thing to violence being experienced along King Street is hypertension on the part of the merchants, and heart trouble when they check the till on a Saturday night.

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JOIN!!

The NAACP In Your Community and work for JUSTICE! And EQUALITY!

Mississippi State Conference NAACP

(National Association for the Advancement of Colored People)

For Information Call FL 3-6906
Jackson, Miss.

Rev. Robert L. T. Smith Speaks To Farish Street Branch YMCA Wednesday, May 2

"This important objective is certainly in line with the thinking and action of those of you who are here today. Our community is fortunate indeed, in having such a dedicated team of workers in this most worthy task. Since our state and nation is made up out of the various communities across the vast expanse of our borders, we can say that efforts like yours here help us all and strengthens our country.

No rational minded person questions the wisdom and necessity of building and maintain sufficient military strength to maintain our freedom and independence in a world where unscrupulous systems work from the outside.

But at the same time we must recognize our unshirkable duty to strengthen and broaden our moral and ethical position here at home.

That is why what you are doing is so vital to our national well-being. Yours and mine is a job for human betterment. Ours is a crusade for freedom, justice and equality under law for all men. Our job is to help our young men choose the honorable way in life. We must be inspired ourselves and inspire them to always put principle above expediency and personal gain. We cannot emphasize too strongly that "righteousness exalt a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." You and I wish to expend our talents for human betterment. This course of action is commended to people everywhere.

It is ours to impress upon our young people and adults the

moral obligation to participate in every worthwhile thing in our community. Among those things, and certainly one of the most vital, is to get the ballot and keep an active and sustained interest in the affairs of government in our community, state and nation. We must impress upon all of our people the urgency of this matter. It matters not, that obstacles are placed in our way by scheming men to deny us the ballot, we must pursue this course that leads to first class citizenship and human dignity for all. There is a crying need now for men of great integrity to lead us in all areas of human interest.

A concerted effort for voter registration is now being launched and I just know that we can count on you to do your part.

We need men — competent men; men with faith, men with vision and courage to speak for us in the Councils of Government at all levels. We can no longer sit supinely by while mis-guided men pretend that we are still living in the 1800's.

Mrs. Ida Jones Barnes Awarded Fellowship

Mrs. Ida Jones Barnes, a senior language arts major at Jackson State College, has been awarded an Audiology Fellowship to attend the State University of Iowa. Notice of Mrs. Barnes' award came from Dr. James F. Curtis, Head of the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at the University. The Fellowship guarantees a stipend covering expenses for one academic year and a summer session. It is renewable from year to year if her academic achievement warrants it.

A graduate of J. J. Knox High School, she entered Jackson State College on a Masonic Scholarship. She is an honor roll student and an active member and participant in many extra-curricular activities including the Jackson State College Concert and Vesper Choirs, the Methodist Student Movement, the Sunday School, the Dunbar Dramatics Club, Alpha Kappa Mu Honorary Society, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She is also President of the Language Arts Club.

Mrs. Barnes is a native of Sumner, Miss., and the daughter of Reverend and Mrs. Samuel Jones of Winona.

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Georgia Variety Store Desegregates Lunch Counter; No Incidents

Augusta, Georgia — On Saturday afternoon, April 7, a group of students, Negro and white, went down to the lunch counter at H. L. Green's Variety Store in Augusta, Georgia. Green's along with several other lunch counters in Augusta, was desegregated by agreement several weeks ago.

Three of the white students and one Negro student sat down on four of the stools and were later joined by a young man, Mr. Cecil Hudson, who stood next to the Negro girl in an empty space where there were no stools. By this time there were also Negroes eating at various places along the counter. There was one policeman stationed in the store. There were also several small groups of white men gathering and talking at different points in the store, and most of their attention seemed to be directed toward Mr. Hudson.

One of the white men, came up to Mr. Hudson and asked him to step outside and began to threaten him. Mr. Hudson remained at the counter, and the policeman then approached the white man and escorted him out of the door.

The Negro girl who was with the group had left by this time, and Mr. Hudson sat down. Mr. William Didley, a student from Paine College, then approached the group and told them there was trouble brewing outside at that moment. The four white students remained at the counter for fifteen or twenty more minutes, and it was obvious that tension was rising among the various groups of white men standing at the store entrance and throughout the store.

Mr. Didley returned to the group and suggested that they leave, and they followed him out the door. There were three or four white men standing to the left of the door on the street and as Mr. Hudson emerged they moved toward him, saying, "Let's get him!" Mr. Didley, however, had placed himself in front of the white men, acting as a buffer for the other four, who turned to the right and ran down the street.

The white men began to hit at Mr. Didley and in the scuffle one of them stabbed him in the stomach. Mr. Didley began to run down the street with the white men following him. He was thrown to the sidewalk, and was continuously being beaten.

At this time, a policeman came over and took Mr. Didley and the white man away. After

NAACP Steps Up Drive For Jobs

New York — Branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People throughout the country have been called upon to step up their drive against discriminatory employment practices in their respective communities.

Citing a recent resolution adopted by the Association's Board of Directors, NAACP Executive Secretary Roy Wilkins this week sent letters to 1,500 local NAACP units urging them "to make a report on their activities by June 15.

Mr. Wilkins' communication outlined the following steps for action by the branches:

1. Investigate the employment practices of local businesses, retail establishments, industries, breweries and other manufacturing concerns to determine their hiring practices.

2. Conduct a marketing survey to determine the amount of Negro business enjoyed by these concerns.

3. Negotiate with the owners and managers of local companies which discriminate against Negro workers, insisting that a representative number of non-white employees be hired. Include the representatives of organized labor and the unions which have agreements with these companies in your negotiations.

4. Publicize your protest and state your intentions of withholding patronage if these concerns do not change their practices.

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being treated for the stab wound Mr. Didley was booked on charges of disorderly conduct and carrying a knife. He said later that he did not have a knife on him at all — that all students engaged in activities connected with the lunch counters always emptied their pockets of anything that might be identified as a dangerous weapon. The white man that was arrested was charged only with disorderly conduct.

Mr. Didley is now in the University Hospital in Augusta. An exploratory operation was performed on Saturday evening, three inches, but had been de-the knife had penetrated about and the surgeon reported that flected by a rib.

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