The Nation Pulls For Meredith

Unions, Democrats, Civil Rights Groups Join in Rally Support

Hundreds of telegrams and dozens of rallies throughout the nation expressed the feeling of the people who support James Meredith's entrance into the University of Mississippi. A. Philip Randolph, Vice-president of the A.F. of L. and founder of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, was one of those who supported the cause. Randolph sent a telegram to Meredith expressing his support and saying, "Your country needs you."

Other speakers featured at the rally included Robert Marshall, Representative for Governor of New York; Harry A. Andros, President of the Central Labor Council; and Jack Greenberg, NAACP Council.

700 Rally

Over 700 people attended a Harlem rally called by Core and the NAACP. Core Na-ACP representatives were present at the rally, held at the apartment of Rep. Percy Stotts, president of the NAACP and New York's NAACP, and several members of the Albany Movement added their voices to the rally. Speakers called for support of Meredith's fight throughout the country.

Canada To Texas

Several students from Canada to Texas are demonstrating their solidarity with Meredith in his historic integration of Ole Miss. One thousand-twenty-one students from University of Toronto, who have signed a telegram of solidarity and support, were present in the draft. The eight pages, needed to insert the names of the B.U. supporters, were a dramatic demonstration of feelings manifested by students everywhere.

Reports of student support also came in from Columbia University; a prayer demonstration at the University of Texas; a demonstration in Los Angeles; and reports of student support from Arizona and the South, originating at Texas Christian, and spreading to other campuses.

Meredith Holds News Conference; Ends 2 Problems

James Meredith, student at the University of Mississippi, ended two of the problems he faced in his efforts to maintain his place. He had to overcome the fire at Dunn's service station and the University of Mississippi's attempt to evict him.

From time to time, this column has hoped to interject some lightness or humor into the serious struggle for justice in the state of Mississippi, but in recent weeks there has been little at which to laugh. The tension of the state has weighed heavily upon the hearts of our little staff.

But the state legislature, in its pitiful attempts to support the governor in his effort to maintain segregation in the face of Federal Court orders, was the nearest thing to comedy. Poor hapless pitiful is the better word, however. The special session which was called explicitly for the purpose of reenacting the state 'happened' to fall just at the convenient time to get James Meredith out of the University of Mississippi.

Narly failing to get their one job done, the legislature threw together a plan to reapp point the state shortly before the deadline permitting the constitutional amendment to go on the November ballot. If the state did not reapp point the plan worked out (Continued on Page 4)

Remarks of Charles Reith

"What must not be forgotten is that James Meredith's registration and attendance at the University of Mississippi is an extremely important segment of the story of America, to extend the rights of citizenship to those now denied them, and to meet this nation's protests against civil rights, this story as it is emerging, as the story stands a model for all. We have the full support of the vast majority of American students."
Editorial Page

Braver and Earlier

In the aftermath of the Oxford crisis, some hopeful voices are beginning to be heard. We reported last week the statements made by some of the state’s leading professional and business men, who came out against the inflammatory reporting of the situation in the press. These men are aware of the widespread disquietudes of creating an ugly environment around their businesses.

Two weeks ago, when Meredith was attempting to enroll in the University of Mississippi, everyone knows that he was bodily turned back by the governor, who refused to allow the applicant into the room. Because the press had informed the public that this would occur, there was a large and unruly crowd around the state office building.

It happened that the same day, some out of state industrialists who had come to look over the state as a possible new site for their firm, had business at the state office building. Part of their impression did the incident make when they had to push their way through an ugly crowd to keep their appointment.

Other hopeful voices, are beginning to be audible above the din of hate and ignorance. Several ministers spoke out in their sermons in Oxford last Sunday. The Reverend Duncan Gray, Jr., rector of the St. Peter’s Episcopal Church put the finger of blame on the state leaders who brought the situation to its climax rather than on the students and crowds. He said, "Who could really blame them (the students) when the governor himself was responsible for rebellion against the law, a living symbol of lawlessness?"

Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Rev. Murphy C. Wilder, made a similar appeal in his sermon. "The moment when we should have spoken and inactive when we should have moved..." and kept the strife from being publicized.

The Ole Miss chapter of the American Association of University Professors also made a statement appearing elsewhere in this paper, chastising the news media for its part in the buildup of the situation. In addition, the professors cleared the United States Marshals responsibility for starting the rioting. This was in direct contradiction to a statement made by Governor Barnett placing the blame on the goons.

These are brave voices in a state such as ours at this time. But these voices are also late. Everyone knows of the shame that encompasses the campus and death of Meredith’s peril from the tension, and the potential peril of every Negro in the state. A lesson must be learned from the terrible experience; these voices must be braver. They must come before the crisis, not afterward.

Stay Away From Fair

Don’t go to the State Fair; don’t pay for indignity and humiliation. The segregated Fair is an example of the oppressive “separate but equal” basis of life in Mississippi. And, of course, it results in patent unequal and inferior treatment for the Negro people.

The Negro Fair is three days, only half the six day span of the White Fair. Many of the better exhibits and shows are removed, except, of course, for those which seek to make money from Negro patrons.

If you attend the Fair, you will implicitly say that you are satisfied with the lower lives in that second best is good enough for James Meredith and it’s not good enough for the Negroes of Mississippi.

A lone Negro student is braving vile harassment and disunity to stand in the face of death to his people. Do not betray him by selling your dignity for a carnival ride. Remember the picketers brutally clubbed and attacked by dogs last year—and stay away from the Fair.

Meredith in Memphis

Special to the FREE PRESS

A special report for the FREE PRESS visited James Meredith in Memphis last weekend where the Ole Miss student relaxed with his wife and children. Federal marshals, Meredith was reported “very good spirits” and had met with the campus and professors.

A biweekly newspaper editor in viewes suited filled with telegrams of support was one of the little things that made him feel the love of his people. Do not betray him by selling your dignity for a carnival ride. Remember the picketers brutally clubbed and attacked by dogs last year—and stay away from the Fair.

FREE PRESS 

Voter Registration: Close Up

The Register Is “Out”

The series, “Citizen Education Workshop,” is being temporarily discontinued. There has been a great deal of public interest in the young people throughout the state in voter registration campaigns. In most Mississippi newspapers, they have been considered as agitations.

The FREE PRESS has given one of the students of Professor Edwards, an opportunity to tell his experiences. The student is Charles Cobb who has spent several weeks in the Mississippi Delta.

Fourth of a series

By Charles Cobb

On Tuesday night, August 21, we began canvassing from door to door, in order to bring some people to Indiana to make registration attempts Wednesday morning.

We had, and still have, a message to bring to the Negro citizens of this small delta town. Freedom is coming; why don’t you register and vote? But, we had over 300 years of fear to conquer.

“What’s all this about with your voting, if you are just going to sit there and do nothing about your voting? That’s what I want to register with this stuff, you got youself.

Some were ready, although, on August 25, we took four people to Indiana to make registration attempts. The register’s office, we were told that the register’s office was closed; this is a lie, and he would be at the hotel. We, however, were not deceived.

On the next day, August 20, we took three people to register. This time the registrar just referred us back at the bus station to see a friend off. We were told that the office might be open later that afternoon, but when we returned, it was closed.

We returned the next day, but the office was closed again.

Typical of the attitude and rejection to our voter registration efforts is the statement: “The name cannot be registered.”

When we came to her home, we were: register and vote. The friendliness that is so natural to the Negro residents of Rube City was not there. We were going from door to door, in an attempt to encourage the Negroes to register and vote, and asked if she was registered. She was not.

The very first thing she said was, “They white folks come; mean; they’ll run me out of my home.” She went on to say that what we were doing was very worthwhile, and not to give up. We then asked her if she felt that getting Negroes to realize and exercise their constitutional rights was important enough to risk the harassments, intimidations, and economic pressures that might be used against them. If she said yes, she would have done that. If they were registering (most people do not like to openly admit that they are afraid); and I don’t believe she could have truthfully said no. Instead of answering, she said that she was subject to her husband, and she wasn’t sure whether she would be required to register and vote.

Practically every Negro in Rube City in talking over who they are trying to do, right, and they would like to exercise all of their constitutional rights. But, as they spoke, they will register to vote and the other thing that are not going to readily agree to do.

If Negroes were in complete slavery, it might be easier to get them to register and vote; for then, we would not need to point out and attempt to explain the subtle economic and psychological slavery he is now bringing on the, the now, the Negro, not too many years ago. The White people had taken the physical slavery, and still remaining, wants to avoid any conflict with the white man.

He says himself as a dependent on the white man, but fails to see how the white man is also dependent on him.

Very few people in Rube City tell us outright that they do not register. But very few people give us encouragement. I then go on to tell them we are N.A.A.C.P. and, we look at them and say, “If it was just me, I would go on and register, but I have my husband and children to think of.”

The latter is who I spoke of earlier could see the rightness of going to register, but she could not see that it was her duty regardless of the consequences.

She was afraid.

Next week: PRESSURES...
Professors Attack Press Distortions; Say Marshals Not To Blame For Riot

This statement was issued by the University of Mississippi chapter of the American Association of University Professors, a national organization with affiliates on hundreds of campuses throughout the United States:

"Resolved that we, the members of the University of Mississippi Chapter of the A.A.U.P., deploiring the tragic events centered about this campus during the past few weeks, do declare our belief that:"

"1. While it is obvious that errors in judgment were made by those in authority on the University campus on Sunday, Sept. 30, we have evidence that the attempt of men in government positions to place all the blame for the riot on the U.S. marshals is not only unfair and reprehensible but is almost completely false. We encourage an investigation by the proper authorities.

"2. Some news media in Mississippi have entertained irresponsible and second-hand stories in distorting the facts and have thereby created confusion, and also contributed to the climate of public opinion that brought the students into Jackson, on Oct. 1, their hopes that all news media would "cooperate with some, reputable pub-

lishers and refrain from the publication of rumors ofimaginatory statements.

"3. While all citizens of Mississippi and the United States of America have the right to disagree in every peaceful and legal way with the law of the land as interpreted by the Supreme Court, it is the duty of every patriotic citizen to obey the law and encourage others to obey it. We believe in the rule of the courts and ballot boxes to state our convictions; we espouse and deplore the useless employment of clubs and clubs against fellow citizens in behalf of any convictions whatever.

"4. Riots, weapons and agitators have no place at a university. This university can be better carried on its important part in the march toward progress and prosperity in Mississippi without any of these. With the cooperation of the overwhelming majority of law-abiding Mississippi citizens, the University of Mississippi can return in the near future to the normally peaceful conditions essential to education in Mississippi, to the benefit of all mankind and the good of the community for the future."

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The Law Vs. Morality

The following are excerpts and
short takes from the columns of
New York Post writer Marcia Kempton. We publish excerpts from the Post because they are in

the public interest and because the
reporter believes that they are in

frank comments on the responses of
both the right wing and the

liberal wing of the American press.

"I have been taught by persons con-

vinced that they are more pagan than
anyone else. But the effect of their teachings has not
been to turn Gen. Walker from the assurance that the duty of a""s
""duty is to overthrow the First Amendment of the Constitution, he insisted that a constitutional law does not act on this belief that the
""flame a mob to armed assault on a campus of the United States, that is a Communist but a retired major general of the Army of the United States."

"We appeal to duly constituted authorities, and to all those who believe that it has been usurped by tyrants. We only request that the law of the land merely because because it is the law of the land, but only because we believe it right and just, and do not act well or ill because we are impressed by the fact that the eyes of the world are upon us."

Moral Issues

"Why then is President Ken- demed me to remark that the dom- nedy. But the election is over and the
tion which the President invoked was, as his first job is to stop the

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Mississippi Free Press
Saturday, October 13, 1962

Free Press Staffman Applies To Ole Miss

Dewey Greene, 21 year old navy veteran and staff member of the Mississippi Free Press, has applied for admission to the Spring semester of the University of Mississippi.

A former student at Mississippi Valley State College, Greene, who plans to be an accounting student, revealed that neither this college nor any other Negro school in the state offers a course in his field. The Free Press writer held the belief that "every academically qualified person is entitled to an education where it is morally and legally entitled to receive the best education available to him."

He stated that he was unable to attend school now without the aid of a National Defense Education Act loan and explained that students going out of state were expected to pay for a full semester before being eligible for a loan.

Thus, Greene has applied to Ole Miss because it is the only school which he can attend to secure an accounting degree.

"A native of Jackson, Miss., Greene is now a resident of Clinton, Miss. He has been employed by the Free Press, a post he will continue in following his admission into Ole Miss next spring.

Mississippi Free Press

Union Gives Tougaloo Student $500 Civil Rights Scholarship

A coed at Tougaloo Southern Christian College has been awarded a $500 scholarship by the United Packinghouse Workers of America, Central Civil Rights Scholarship and civil rights and "sustaining support and performance" in the area of civil rights or civil liberties.

Miss Johnnie Blue became the recipient of half the Russell Ball scholarship, awarded in the name of Russell Ball, director of the packinghouse workers' union.

Freedom Rider

A third year student at Tougaloo Southern Christian College in Tougaloo, Miss., last summer she spent three months in Parchman Penitentiary as a Freedom Rider here in Jackson.

A freshman at Duke University, Miss. Trumorrow was one of a few white students who joined pickets lines protesting segregation in Richmond, Virginia's restaurant and department stores. The young lady also helped collect money and food to be taken by train to Taylorsville, Georgia to give to the freedom riders.

Southern Problem

In an interview with the FREE PRESS, Miss Trumorrow replied, "Why did I do it? Mostly because I'm a Southernerner and this is a problem of the South." Discussing the role of the Southernern in the civil rights movement, she commented that it varies in different Southernern communities. "Basically, it is to aid the Negro students in whatever way they may choose, including picketing; to walk a picket line, to keep out of lights, and to pound a typewriter, to stay on campus and speak out when it's necessary."

Applications Available

The Commission which administers the scholarship is composed of church and academic leaders, including Rev. Dr. B. A. Howard, Jr. and Mrs. Howard who were in attendance.

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COMMENTS . . . (Continued from Page 1)

by Judge Horton of Hinds county favoring the urban areas will be put into effect.

In the bill, the House rejected a measure that can only be considered ridiculous — because it is only appropriate for the proportion of representation of the house and the smallest county the same voice as the largest in the Senate — the legislator representing a county of (frivolous) moments.

One of the lawmakers from a rural county began making an oration at the top of his lungs (with gestures) about how this particular bill for reapportionment was all right here in a state where congressmen elected from his county. Although he was near to ringing the microphone with his exclaimations, someone said, "Loudly, louder," as if he could not bear.

Another congressman was trying to point out how it was quite fair to have more than one representative from some of the sparsely populated counties. Some one else suggested that under such a plan Hinds county would have more than 36 representatives. When he said many representatives, would have more than 36 representatives. He suggested that under such a plan Hinds county would have more than 36 representatives. He said, "cut 'em off," suggesting that the most populous counties be limited to 10 representatives. With that, he sat down with a justification enough in a house where Hinds has three votes for its 187,000 people and Benton has 11 votes for its 1,732 people.

It was really good to see that the Colonial States won their territorial battle with a stroke. Because of the settlement, we do not have to temporarilry stop buying that good union bread. No doubt, the unity of the workers in not accepting the company offer until it meets their demands brought the company to its knees and, more painlessly.

As one drives about town now, the Confederate flags are less noticeable. They are mostly made of a poor material and wind, and they are carried by a people less proud of them now than they were a week ago. (Let's hope.) Or are they put away until game time comes again and everybody can choose up sides.

Splitting of the flags that played such a part in the demonstration in arousing the people, I overheard one frightened mother telling her young boy to take the American flag off his bicycle for a while. Just imagine, 1962, and it is sometimes unsafe for a youngster to wave an American flag in the U. S. where there would be some reason for that.

Meredith Holds . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Aaron Henney, to whom the statements were attributed, made the following statement available to the FREE PRESS.

"We are concerned with the implications of school integration. Meredith to the reported press story that he was "hand picked, selected or chosen" by the NAACP to break the integration barrier at the University of Mississippi.

"The facts are that Mr. Merry- thed had applied to the University of Mississippi for admission as a student and had been turned down; he sought the legal aid of the NAACP to help secure his right to enter the university. This assistance was given. These other students may seek the assistance of the NAACP if their own attempts to enroll at the University of Mississippi as well as other institutions of higher learning are denied them.

"The NAACP is willing and ready to help whosoever is qualified and desires our assistance."

John Murrell, speaking for the national branch of the NAACP, said that it was Mr. Meredith who asked for assistance. "If he had been turned down, if he became necessary." The local papers sought to sensational- ize the situation, however, with the headline, "Meredith Black Man, NAACP."