



**MEN OF THE COMMON LABORERS' UNION LOCAL 145 prepare for the day's picketing during their August strike against the contractors. The strike was only moderately successful due to weak union leadership. Union members are beginning to strengthen their leadership.**

## LABORERS UNION REMOVES WEAK REP. — ELECTS TILLMAN

Several weeks ago the FREE PRESS covered the strike between the Common Laborer's Union Local 145 and the Contractors' Association. At that time the FREE PRESS discovered that discrimination existed within the predominantly Negro union. This paper promised that it would further investigate the situation, but has not done so to any great degree because of the lack of staff time to do a thorough job. As the paper expands, however, the FREE PRESS expects to examine and assist as it can the effort of unionism in Mississippi. —Ed.

Local 145 of the Common Laborer's Union did not have the strength necessary to sustain its strike during the first weeks of August. According to members of the union interviewed by the FREE PRESS, the chief problem with the union was within its leadership. A union spokesman has reported, however, that the union representative who was responsible for much of the lack of unity has been replaced.

### New President

William Tillman, who has been very active in attempts to improve the local, has replaced the less-liked former president. Tillman, 32, has some real reasons at home for wanting to make his union strong, they are a wife and six children, aged three to twelve.

Tillman, who resigned from his position as corresponding secretary, was succeeded in

that post by Paul Williams of Clinton. Williams suggested, at the first meeting after the elections, that 50 copies of the union's constitution be purchased from the International Union. Previously the constitution had not been available for members to read and refer to.

### Workers United

At the meeting at which Tillman and Williams were elected one of the members stood up and proudly shouted, "You see what we can do." Another member added, "This is nothing—wait until 8 months from now when really big things are going to be happening." A later interview with this spokesman revealed that the union members have hopes of even further improving the strength and ability of the union to serve its membership.

# Apportionment Plan Up For Vote Nov. 6

## Support Democracy, Score Discrimination In Labor Movement

Union Democracy in Action is devoted to the support of union reformers, civil libertarians and liberals who are seeking to promote internal democracy in America's labor unions.

Its October issue included a report by NAACP Labor Secretary Herb Hill charging discrimination against Negro and Puerto Rican workers in the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU). In a feature called "Liberalism, Unionism and Democracy," editor Herman Benson analyzed the causes of union bureaucracy and asserted the need for union members to stand up for their rights.

### Political Activity Barred

Mr. Hill charged: "It must be noted that members of the union are not permitted to engage in any internal political activity, they are not permitted to have clubs, groups, or caucuses within their union except for a designated period of three months before (elections). How can workers gain support for choices contrary to those of the administration unless they are permitted to organize to discuss their own interests and to press for the election of candidates to union office responsive to their needs? . . ."

"In order to be eligible to run for President or General Secretary-Treasurer, a member must be a delegate to the convention, which immediately reduces the number eligible to approximately 1,000 out of 450,000 members. The member must be a

(Continued on Page 4)

## Change Favors Rural Counties Says Hinds County Rep. Davis

On November 6, all those citizens of Mississippi who have been allowed to register will be able to vote. The big issue on the ballot will be the amendment to the Mississippi Constitution to reapportion the state's legislature. The plan, known as SCR-101, is being presented to the voters for approval.

### Reapportionment Plan

Because of the Legislature's great concern with assisting the Governor block the admission of James Meredith to the University of Mississippi, the special reapportionment session barely threw together a reapportionment plan at all. The amendment calls for the Senate to consist of one representative from each of the state's 82 counties. The House will also consist of a representative from each county, with each county receiving an additional vote for every 21,000 residents.

## Jack Greenberg Speaks To Clarksdale Meeting

Citizens of Coahoma County, Mississippi, will be able to hear Jack Greenberg, Director-Council of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, on Sunday, October 28. Attorney Greenberg was scheduled to address the Coahoma County civil rights group last year but was unavoidably delayed due to unfavorable flying conditions out of Miami, Florida, enroute to Memphis.

The meeting in Clarksdale will be the annual gathering of the Coahoma County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This meeting closes the fiscal year which has been marked by some 28 arrests of Negroes and Whites who have participated in the struggle for equal rights in the county. The arrests have included such prominent names as Aaron Henry, Clarksdale druggist, and Attorney William L. Higgs of Jackson.

### Held Incommunicado

Higgs was arrested early in the summer after he spoke at a political meeting in that Delta city. He was arrested and held incommunicado for over 20 hours before he was released. Also arrested with Higgs were

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The representative from Hinds County, Russell Davis, in a speech last Monday, pointed out that SCR-101 would permit Issaquena County, with a population of 3,500, to have the same voice as Hinds County, which has a population of more than 187,000. Davis asked the audience, "Isn't that discrimination on the value of votes?" He answered his own question, "I think it is."

### Rural Power

Davis went on to show that under the proposed plan, the balance of power would rest with the rural counties. Governor Ross Barnett, who gains most of his support from the conservative rural areas of the state, had earlier endorsed the plan. Chancery Judge W. T. Horton refused to prevent the plan from going to the public, but broadly hinted that if it passed, he would replace it with his own plan which gives the more heavily populated areas more voting strength.

## Group Organizes In Pascagoula To Pressure Local Advertisers

A writer for the Pascagoula Chronicle reported that a group of some 200 terrorists have formed in that Mississippi coast town to put pressure on the Chronicle. The group, which met in a municipal building and heard supporting comments from the city sheriff, claims that its purpose is to cope with hurricanes, fires, and other disasters. It seems, however, that the first disaster is the existence of the Chronicle and its "liberal" tendencies.

### Supports Unions

The paper has given some support to the local unions in their differences with the ship

building industry. The man who was named president of the terrorist group was reported to be an employee of the Engels Ship Building Company.

It is expected that the group will endeavor to close down the paper by pressuring and terrorizing the newspapers advertisers rather than by applying pressure directly on the newspaper employees.

The Pascagoula paper is backed by some of the same interests that were behind the State Times, a Jackson daily, that was recently forced out of business because of its moderate political stands.

## COMMENTS

By Charles Butts

The following is a very clever column by Russell Baker, columnist for the New York Times. The FREE PRESS felt that everyone who has followed the Mississippi situation in the past few weeks would appreciate the great satire Mr. Baker makes of the idea of sovereignty. —Ed.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7—Excerpt from a history of the American future:

### Birth Of A Nation

Passage of the Mississippi Statehood Act, admitting the former Gulf Coast republic as

the 50th state of the American Union, ended one of the oddest episodes in U. S. foreign relations.

The trouble had begun during the uneasy years of the Civil War centennial celebration when the Mississippi Legislature, after an increasingly severe series of disputes with the Federal Government, decided to sever its bonds with the U. S.

The resolution produced a sensation in Washington. Many

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## FAIR FOLDS

Final reports show the boycott of the Negro State Fair October 15-17 to have been 90 to 95% effective. In spite of concerted government efforts to boost attendance, scores of thousands of people rejected the segregated event. One observer commented that the fair grounds had the air of "an empty concentration camp."

### STERN ORDERS

The North Jackson Youth Council of the NAACP reported that "Negro high school bands, under stern orders from their respective state-supported schools, marched to the gates of the fair." But, only a few students entered the grounds.

Many of the concessions did not operate. Although the fair was scheduled to close late Wednesday night, displays and concessions were dismantled by the afternoon; by noon there was virtually no one on the grounds. The fair officially closed at 6.



WE STAND FOR . . .

- GOOD GOVERNMENT
- HIGHER LIVING STANDARDS
- BETTER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
- SOCIAL JUSTICE . . . IN MISSISSIPPI

# Editorial

## Page

### This May Be The Answer

Last week we editorially pointed out the impoverished condition in which this state exists. We showed the need for new industry to induce more money into Mississippi so that living standards can be raised. We noted, however, that because of the political maneuverings surrounding James Meredith's admission to the University of Mississippi climaxed by the now world famous "Oxford riots," it may be some time before responsible industry will come into the state.

This being the case, it seems that for those of us who are here, there is one very important job to do. If there is not going to be any good industry coming into the state, we must put all our effort into improving those industries that we now have.

#### Must Organize

To do this, we must make each business earning profits here in Mississippi do its share toward raising the living standards here in the state. The most effective, and, in fact, the only way to accomplish this is to organize responsible, democratic trade unions within each business. In order to prevent benefits from continuing to be enjoyed by just a portion of the population, the unions must be integrated, only then can we consider them responsible and democratic.

But in order to bring about effective change in our existing industries, we, the people, the workers of Mississippi, are going to have to put some real time, effort, and energy into the struggle—rather than just waiting for big daddy Federal government to do everything.

People interested in raising living standards by improving wages, can learn a good lesson from the Meredith case. Right now, when we think of Oxford, we think of the Federal marshals and troops. We think of big McShane of the Justice Department who escorted Meredith on each of his attempts to enroll.

But let us remember well, that the federal government did not come onto the scene until after Meredith and his attorneys had been through gruelling months of legal battles. It was only when Meredith had gone as far as he could go that the federal government entered the case. If he and his attorneys had not done their long hard tasks, the government would never have had an opportunity to enter, and never would have entered the case.

#### Improve Living Conditions

The same is true when people wish to improve their living conditions. If they get up and do all they can—if they organize themselves into unions in order to be able to speak together in one voice for their rights and then the company continues to treat them unfairly, the federal government can be called upon to help.

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) is an arm of the federal government with the responsibility of insuring fair treatment of labor unions. But, just as in the Meredith case, the government cannot and will not assist those who do not first get out and do all they can on their own.

New industry will not come into Mississippi to raise living standards in the near future. We are going to have to organize ourselves, so that we can become an effective voice in asking for rights and wages to allow decent living. We cannot look to the government until we have first looked to ourselves to see what we can do.

#### From McComb

### 'Meredith Case Based On State's Doctrine'

The FREE PRESS is again using this column in order to acquaint its readers with the ideas of other publications. The following is an editorial from the McComb Enterprise-Journal, a daily edited by Oliver Emerich. We feel that this piece, dated October 17, has particular interest for all Mississippians.

James Meredith was not ordered admitted to Ole Miss because of a desegregation decision. He was ordered admitted under the South's own "separate but equal" doctrine. The court decided that Mississippi's institutions of higher learning for the races were separate but not equal. This placed the responsibility of his being admitted to Ole Miss on the State of Mississippi because this is the doctrine supported by the people of Mississippi.

This is quite different from the general belief that Meredith was ordered admitted under the school desegregation court order of 1954.

In weighing what has happened on the University of Mississippi campus, our people must recall that the Southern states once went all-out to get a Supreme Court decision upholding "separate but equal" school facilities for the races.

In 1896 the Supreme Court upheld this concept. That Supreme Court often has been referred to as a court friendly to the South.

On May 17, 1954, the U. S. Supreme Court handed down its school desegregation decision. That Supreme Court of 1954 often has been referred to as a court unfriendly to the South.

The State of Mississippi repeatedly has endorsed the concept of "separate but equal" school facilities for the races. This brings into focus enlightening facts concerning the situation which precipitated the riot at Ole Miss.

Contrary to what many people think James Meredith was not admitted to the university under the decision of the "unfriendly" court of 1954. The court verdict which permitted him to enter was founded upon the decision of the "friendly" Supreme Court of 1896.

The federal Fifth District Circuit Court of Appeals cited two cases in upholding Meredith's request to enter Ole Miss. These cases were: Sweatt vs. the Texas Board of Regents, and McLaurin vs. the Oklahoma Board of Regents, both of which were decided in 1950. This was two years before the Supreme Court handed down its school desegregation decision. Both the Texas and the Oklahoma cases were decided on the basis that separate but unequal facilities had been provided for the two races.

Another significant fact about this case is that the State of Mississippi officially admitted that the higher educational facilities provided in Mississippi were unequal.

The registrar at Ole Miss declined to admit James Meredith on the grounds that he could not be transferred to the University of Mississippi from a non accredited college. He was also declined on the basis of character and that he was a troublemaker.

Jackson State College, an institution of higher learning in  
(Continued on Page 4)

#### Voter Registration: Close Up

## Violence

The series, "Citizen Education Workshop," is being temporarily discontinued. There has been a great deal of publicity about the young people who have been active throughout the state in voter registration campaigns. In most Mississippi newspapers, they have been considered as agitators.

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

By Charles Cobb  
Sixth of a series

Despite an increasing amount of pressure, Negroes still went to Indianola to register. By September 7th, 36 persons had made registration attempts.

Tension had noticeably increased in Ruleville. The police cruised in the Negro neighborhood constantly.

On September 10th, I and a local student worker were driven back to Ruleville, after having spent the day in Cleveland, Mississippi. It was about 7:30 in the evening.

After visiting a few friends, we went across town to buy some food. While we were in the store, we heard what sounded like a shot, but passed it from our minds. For, despite the tension in the town, we did not believe that there would be anything as violent as a shooting so soon. There was always the possibility of being beaten up, but a shooting—only as a last resort.

#### Girls Shot

Around 10:00 that night, the grandmother of the student worker at whose house I was eating, came in from church; she informed us that she had heard that some houses had been shot into and that some girls had been hit. She mentioned specifically the Sisson home. Recalling the gunshot-like sound we had heard earlier, we immediately left for the Sisson home . . . running.

Upon arrival at the Sisson home, we found that shots had been fired and that someone had been hit. Blood literally covered the floor.

After telephoning in a report to the Jackson Nonviolent office, I went to the hospital to check on the condition of the two girls who had been hit.

#### Arrested By Mayor

When the Mayor noticed me taking notes at the hospital, he placed me under arrest. He did not tell me the charges, but I gathered that it was suspicion: "He looks like the type of person who would do this thing."

I was released the next morning and, except for a large amount of mosquito bites, was none the worse.

We spent the next few days, gathering information about the shootings.

From the statements of persons in the area of the shootings, we have been able to get a fair picture of the color of the car and the route it took.

#### Route Of Car

Most people agree that the color of the car was black. The car probably came down Reden

St., going East, past the home of Mr. Joe MacDonald. It turned at the dead-end and came back west on Reden St. Driving slowly past Mr. MacDonald's home again, the intruders fired (with a shotgun) into it.

Then they picked up speed, turned north on Center St., turned west on Byron St., drove up to the Sisson Home, stopped and fired several shots (22 rifle) into it, then continued west on Byron St., and fired into the Tucker home (either .45 or .38 pistol), and continued on Byron St. until they reached highway No. 49. They turned north on highway No. 49, headed towards Drew, Mississippi.

Strangely enough, the police, who had been constantly cruising in the neighborhood before the shootings, were not readily available the night of the shootings. The girls were in the hospital before the police arrived.

The September 10th shootings in Ruleville, were, I believe, premeditated.

On the day of the shootings, several voter registration workers noticed a Ruleville police car, traveling the previously described route. The car contained a policeman and a man not in uniform.

All of the houses shot into contained persons active in the voter registration drive.

The shootings were an emotional reaction to the four day smear (August 31-September 3) in the Jackson Daily News.

#### Negroes Afraid

After the shooting, fear swept quickly through the Negro community. The next night, and for many other nights, people weren't sitting on their porches after dark. Lights were turned out early. Doors were locked and shades were drawn. Fear . . . white men laughed; Negroes cringed and kept silent.

Still, people were sitting on their porches the night of the shootings; people were up and around. Yet, no one claims to have noticed the men in the car. Some have said that they were white men. Some have even said they know the make of car. But no one seems to know who was in the car.

I can't believe that a car with white men in it can get into the heart of the Negro community during a pleasant summer night without someone noticing who was in it. But nobody seems to know.

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**Comments . . .**

(Continued from Page 1)  
feared that it would lead to the establishment of an alien power only 500 miles from Cape Canaveral.

The crisis became acute when the Union of South Africa announced that it would come to the aid of Mississippi against any aggressor. Fearful that an outbreak of hostilities might lead to global nuclear war, the Administration decided to support Mississippi independence. "We must demonstrate to underdeveloped peoples the world over," the message to Congress declared, "that we will never oppose their yearnings for freedom."

**Nation Hails Bobby**

Republican opposition in Congress was abandoned on the ground that it would be irresponsible to treat a matter of such international delicacy as a domestic political issue, and the Act of Separation was passed in the form requested by the White House. Not, however, before Senator James O. Eastland had filibustered in vain for an amendment that would have permitted him to continue as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee after he had become a citizen of the new nation.

During the six-month transitional period before full independence, Mississippians who preferred to remain citizens of the United States were sent to resettlement centers from polit-

ical refugee camps established in Texas and Louisiana.

The Sovereign State of Mississippi, as it called itself, was officially born in a jubilant three-day ceremony at Jackson, the national capital. As his representative, the President sent his brother Robert. His informality and geniality were hailed by the local press as a gesture of U. S. friendship for white supremacists throughout the world.

**Crisis For Sovereignty**

The following week Adlai Stevenson opened the bitter, historic fight for Mississippi's admission to the United Nations. At the same time Ambassador Eastland called at the White House to present his credentials and a request for \$300,000,000 in foreign aid.

The rest is familiar. The collapse of the new Mississippi dollar, which was backed by cotton and turpentine. The appalling tales of economic hardship sent back by the foreign-aid investigating commission.

As the crisis deepened, President Ross Barnett made his celebrated state visit to Washington to appeal for aid. Mississippians still remember the American President's sensitivity in assembling an all-white Protestant guest list for the memorable White House state dinner. Then came the Administration's dramatic but futile fight to prevent Congressman Otto Passman from cutting the Mississippi foreign aid request.

Passman's cut left the sovereign state in a cruel dilemma. It could not appeal to the United Nations, having walked out of the world organization after the General Assembly rejected its motion to have all African delegates permanently reseated in the fear of the hall.

**CLASS OF SERVICE**  
This is a day message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

**WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM**

**SYMBOLS**  
DL = Day Letter  
NL = Night Letter  
LT = International Letter Telegram

The time shown in the day line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination.

*800 Southern Students Telegram Solidarity With James Meredith*

The following is a letter received by the editor.

To the Editor:

I am enclosing copies of telegrams sent by students of North Carolina College (mostly Negro) and Duke University (mostly white) to James Meredith and President Kennedy. The telegrams were sent about 10 days ago, and only our desire to communicate as quickly as possible with Mr. Meredith and Mr. Kennedy prevented us from securing many hundreds of additional signatures beyond the approximately 800 on each telegram.

After reading this week's issue of the FREE PRESS, I thought your readers might be interested in the sentiments of a large majority of North Carolina College and Duke students.

Best wishes,  
Edward Opton, Jr.  
Durham, N. C.

The FREE PRESS also reprints the two telegrams.

Tentative feelers from Moscow had made it clear that Soviet aid could be had only in return for placing the state police under Red Army command.

**The Union Restored**

Stripped of the old United States farm subsidy payments, cut off from the old Federal highway funds, denied the old public-works money from Washington—in short, denied its old Congressional power to siphon the fat Yankee purse, the Sovereign State was left only one alternative.

In the end President Barnett petitioned for admission to the Union. Eighteen months later, with the economy beginning to recover, Senator Eastland made his first Senate speech since readmission. It was a denunciation of the Supreme Court for trampling on the rights of the sovereign states.

The Union had been saved again.

October, 1962

Mr. James Meredith  
University of Mississippi  
Oxford, Mississippi

Your steadfast courage during the past days and weeks is in the best American tradition. Few of us could take what you have taken and what you now face but we are inspired to fight to the utmost of our ability for full first class citizenship for all people. What you endure at the hands of bigots and lunatics you endure for all of us. We want you to know we will not forget you. Our hearts are with you every time you dodge a stone or hear a jeer. You may have few friends on the University of Mississippi campus today but you are probably the only person now there who will be remembered as a hero by posterity. Congratulations and best wishes.

October, 1962

Honorable John F. Kennedy  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

We are horrified by the tragic events surrounding the admission of James Meredith to the University of Mississippi. We commend your prompt action to restore order and to uphold the authority of the Courts of the United States. The preservation of the Union allowed no other course.

The support of riots in Oxford by the Mississippi state government once again shows how ur-

gent it is that the Justice Department should intensify its efforts to enforce the fifteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States in Mississippi. The outrage in Oxford, the tragic deaths, the damage to our nation's self-respect, and the injury to our reputation among the nations of the world would never have occurred if the government of Mississippi represented all the citizens of Mississippi. For when Negroes obtain the right to vote in Mississippi, race-baiting opportunists will no longer be elected to public offices. We recognize that the Federal Government has done much more to obtain Constitutional Rights for Negroes than the previous administration. However, even the present pace is far too slow for the demands of our century. At the present rate it will be many, many more years before Negroes are allowed to vote in Mississippi in substantial numbers. As recently as last month, Negro voter registration workers have been harassed, intimidated, fired from their jobs, and shot in flagrant violation of Federal Law. You owe it to our nation and to mankind to increase protection for voter registration. Sending in the army to put down insurrection was necessary, but the army alone cannot bring about a permanent change. The only permanent solution will be to give the Negro citizens of Mississippi their Constitutional voice in a representative government.

**THE DESTINY OF AMERICANS**

"Negroes are Americans and their destiny is the country's destiny. They have no other experience besides their experience on this continent and it is an experience which cannot be rejected, which yet remains to be embraced."

These words were written by James Baldwin in the *Notes of a Native Son*, a revealing and articulate study of what it is to be Negro. Books like this one, which shall be discussed in more detail next week, are very important for citizens of Mississippi who seek to understand the complex causes and results of a racist culture in America.

**Bound Together**

"It must be remembered," writes Baldwin, "that the oppressed and the oppressor are bound together within the same society; they accept the same criteria, they share the same beliefs, they both alike depend on the same reality."

But what is reality. In Mississippi, the press and other news media excel in promoting ignorance. People here have little idea of the international support which greeted James Meredith's entrance into Ole Miss. If Mississippians know so little of what has attracted worldwide attention, how much less do they know of the past, which can be distorted, or of the present, which is more complex

than statistics and tradition.

**Read The Truth**

Mississippians must begin to read books — books about the history of the South, which are not slanted to prove that the Confederacy was right, which do not perpetuate the lie that Negroes are inferior; books which talk about the economic problems of the South—the decline of agriculture and lack of new industry; books which speak out for the institutions of democracy — popular participation in government, free trade unions, newspapers which are not afraid to print the truth; books like Baldwin's which talk about the inner feelings of Negroes in a society which is alien and yet the only one they know.

**Tragedy**

Books can give Mississippi Negroes an understanding of their own tragedy—"not that he is cold or black or hungry, not even that he is American, black; but that he has accepted a theology that denies him life, that he admits the possibility of his being sub-human . . ."

FREE PRESS book reviews will bring readers news of books which can contribute to their pride of heritage and accomplishment and their understanding of social and political reality. Readers are invited to suggest books which they would like to see reviewed.

*Notes Of A Native Son*, by James Baldwin, can be bought for \$1.25, paperback, from The Beacon Press, Beacon Hill, Boston or local bookstore, or borrowed from your public library, or by writing to the office of the FREE PRESS.

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# 109 Nations Meet At U.N. Assembly

This is the second of two articles written in honor of United Nations week, October 21-27.

"To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war . . . to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of Nations large and small . . . and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom . . ."

This is the purpose of the United Nations as set down in its charter and ratified by 50 original members 16 years ago. Now there are 109 countries in the world organization—with half the members from Africa and Asia.

### Preserve Peace

The charter directs the U. N. to seek to preserve peace—through discussion, conciliation and, where necessary, police action against aggression. The chief policy making bodies of the U. N. are the General Assembly and the Security Council.

The General Assembly is directed by one vote from every member of the nation. Its main function is discussion, investigation and advice; although, it has become a body which not only recommends, but acts. The "Uniting for Peace" Reso-

lution passed by the General Assembly in 1950 permits Assembly recommendations of action by member nations when the Security Council is deadlocked by a veto.

The Security Council is composed of 5 permanent members, the U. S., the Soviet Union, England, France and China, and 6 members elected by the General Assembly. The Security Council has the power to act in all international disputes and is authorized to use force against aggressor nations. However the 5 permanent members have veto power over Security Council decisions.

(Continued Next Week)

### Meredith Case . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

Mississippi and the college from which Meredith sought a transfer was not accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The University of Mississippi was.

The State of Mississippi went into court with a practical admission that these educational institutions were separate but not equal.

The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, made up of nine Southern judges, decided against Mississippi. Thus the state lost its case within the framework of her own doctrine and before a court of her own citizens.

It is not unusual for people to criticize and condemn a court for decisions contrary to their opinions and desires. In this case we must agree that the court's decision was made in accordance with Mississippi doctrine and partly upon the evidence from the registrar's office.

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# Support Democracy . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

member for ten years and a paid officer for five years. . . .

### Few Eligible

"In order to run for the General Executive Board a member must be a delegate to the convention, a member for five years and a paid officer for three . . . The number of members eligible to run for the General Executive Board is reduced to less than 300. Those eligible for the post of President or General Secretary-Treasurer is less than 200.

"In other words, of the membership of the ILGWU, less than 1/15 of 1% are eligible to run for the General Executive Board and less than 1/20 of 1% are eligible to run for the presidency of the general secretary-treasurer.

### Only White Officers

"For the more than 150,000 Negro and Puerto Rican members of the ILGWU their particular situation is even worse than the general condition. No more than four or five non-white persons would be eligible to run for the general executive board of the union and virtually none at all for the top leadership positions. This explains why there is not a single Negro or Puerto Rican on the 23 member General Executive Board, not a single Negro or Puerto Rican vice president of the union and why there are no Negro or Puerto Rican local managers. . . .

"These fantastic restrictions on political activity within the union and the incredible requirements for top officers are obviously violations of the Bill of Rights for Members of Labor Organizations contained in the

### Jack Greenberg . . .

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several students that were with him at the time.

The police stated, at the time of the arrests, that it was illegal to travel in a car with an integrated group. The reason for the arrests, however, seemed to be more closely connected with Higg's political speech which was part of a movement of Coahoma County Negroes to take part in the politics of their community.

### 200 Seek Registration

The past year has also seen a voter registration drive that has placed over 200 citizens in the registrar's office. The drive began two months ago and is still in progress. The drive has drawn comment from both the White Citizens Council and the Coahoma County Chamber of Commerce.

### Weekly Meetings

The project has been kept vigorous by weekly meetings. The community has responded to the call for several thousands of dollars of bond money. They also have suffered through insult and injury. About a month ago Henry had the plate glass windows of his drugstore broken by bricks.

Attorney Greenburg will speak under the theme, "Citizens of Coahoma County can be free." A large turnout is expected to hear him.

Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act.

### Democratic Unions

"Some unions are genuinely democratic," declared Mr. Benson, "a credit to the labor movement — the United Auto Workers, the Rubber Workers, the International Union of Electrical Workers and others. I do not mean that they are perfect or that they conduct a membership referendum whenever a sheet of stationery is ordered. I mean that a member can speak his piece when he disagrees; he can issue handbills and papers; he can caucus with co-thinkers and run slates against his officials. All this you can do in the United Auto Workers without threats, expulsions, or blacklisting. You may use the rights of free speech, press, and assembly in your UAW just as you do in your country as a citizen. . . .

### Need Concrete Rights

"Union bureaucracy arises, in part, to defend privilege and inequality against democracy . . . Democracy is not an impalpable ideal; it is rooted deeply in long human experience and harsh facts. It arises out of the conviction that if people are to be protected against exploitation, or injustice, or indignity, or oppression, they must possess certain concrete rights. . . .

"The Negro who dares to register in Mississippi is not alone but is sustained by organized nationwide forces of liberalism, even if sometimes lamely and poorly. In pursuit of democracy each sector of liberalism and democracy speaks out for the others. Except for one! Except for the union democrat; except for the rank and file union reformer."

### Movement For Freedom

There are 17 or 18 million union members who, with their families, constitute between 1/4 and 1/3 of the United States.

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The FREE PRESS is concerned with the advancement of democracy in the trade union movement and stands opposed to all forms of discrimination and segregation against union members. We are interested in reports of undemocratic or discriminatory union practices in Mississippi which our readers may know of.

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