Calls Chronicle Labor's Friend; All Advertising Accounts Return

The president of the Mississippi Labor Council, AFL-CIO, Claude Ramsey of Franklin Creek, made a speech to the Pascagoula Council two weeks ago—the first public statement opposing the terrorist group which formed to put the Pascagoula Chronicle out of business.

The speech made clear to the workings: that the Chronicle was a friend. He also noted that any disturbance caused by bigotry may result in the cancelling of federal contracts and would mean that the men out of work.

The group that Ramsey spoke out against was formed more than a month ago as the Jack- son Chapter of the Ku Klux Klan. The group stated that it would come to the Klansmen, and that its purpose was to put the Pascagoula Chronicle out of business.

The first disaster approached by the group was the arrest of Governor Barnett ands Johnson. Criminal contempt charges seek punishment for past violation of a court order, Barnett and Johnson are accused of defying the federal court order to permit James Meredith to register at the University of Mississippi. The Governor appeared surprised by the arrest and said, "I had not dreamed of it." Both men are already in jail daily fines of $10,000, and $5,000 for each conviction of civil contempt. The policy seeks to force compliance with court order and impossession of penalties which continue until the order is obeyed.

Justice Dept. Wins Suit To See Voter Records

The Justice Department was granted the right to examine voter registration records in Hinds, Madison and Lauderdale counties by a federal appeals court decision November 15. The suit was set aside a September ruling by U. S. District Judge Harold Cox which had granted a delay in a court order.

The Justice Department told the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals that the state had failed to prove that an inspection of the records would do irreparable harm to the registration.

Hinds Circuit Clerk H. T. Ash- ford said that he had not been told of any changes of improper actions in his role as clerk.

Both Canton registrar L. F. Campbell and Lauderdale's registrat Preston P. Coleman said that the court order will force them to open their records for federal inspection.
**Editorial Page**

**Better Attitude for Better Altitude**

The view that greets the visitor as he approaches Atlanta from the air is highlighted by several tall, modern buildings. The visitor immediately has the impression that he is landing in a prosperous city. The Atlanta airport, which covers a tremendous expanse, has one of the nation's most modern terminal buildings and the impression of profligate increase.

Although these structures represent only the superficial Atlanta, they correctly suggest that the city has made terrific strides in the last few years. In fact, Atlanta has made so much progress, that in Mississippi, one from hoarice Georgia referred to it as a "Yankee state." The population has grown tremendously with the prosperity in contrast to the depressed conditions that exist in our state, with very little increase in prosperity.

The difference seems to be that Atlantans have subdued their emotionalism and have turned to the issues that bring about progress. It seems that they have been more concerned with improving the situation rather than just keeping the other fellow out of the way.

Bill Mauldin, cartoonist for the St. Louis Dispatch, captured on his drawing board the message that the South must work, or it will be left behind. This is a message that is not lost on the people in Atlanta. The Negroes, in particular, are also in the swim. The Negro is observing. "You ain't gaining much altitude by holding me down," he is saying.

The same old system of landownerships, rich and poor. Atlantans have encouraged new business and industry to come to their city and have made sure that they contributed something other than just exploiting the land.

Workers are fairly compensated for their labors. In turn, they turn their wages back into the community by purchasing goods and services, thereby adding to the prosperity of others in the community and so on around the circle.

When Georgia changed its ancient and unfair county unit system of voting, the great number of people who had profited from the system found that they were able to make their forces felt in state elections. As a result, the state will be led by men much more interested in gaining altitude than keeping others from achieving it.

The tall buildings that grace Atlanta symbolize some of the altitude that one city in the Deep South has reached. Let us encourage the citizens of Mississippi to set the pace for progress in the rest of the state.

**The Big Lie**

Since since Nazi Germany has the Big Lie been used with such effectiveness as here in Mississippi. Local newspapers and pressure groups appear to have completely brainwashed a large section of our citizens into believing a completely false version of what happened the night James Meredith came to Ole Miss.

Recently an Atlanta county judge and jury aimed vitriolic attacks at the federal government, charging it with provoking the Sunday night riot. The FREE PRESS and other newspapers throughout the nation who are not tied to the vested interests of segregation, reported how students and outsiders, inflamed by professional racists, attacked U.S. marshals at the Lyceum.

A special correspondent for the FREE PRESS told how state highway patrolmen deliberately rolled on the rioters, how they ignored armed men who poured into the University.

Oxford Judge Barr's instruction to the jury to disregard evidence secured by the Army's cagry shows his lack of integrity. He has degraded honor by repeating the lies and distortions of the segregationists.

The army investigation followed an attack on one of the guards that was made upon the guard by a Negro who had carried a store of hidden arms. In the wake of two killings — and the threat of more — the army's job was made more difficult by men who were not so new to the job.

Hitler proved that when you make a lie big enough and shout it loud enough, people will begin to believe it. This, regrettably, has come true in Mississippi.

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**From Pasagoula**

Editor Thanks Gulf Foul Who Opposed Terrorists

The Pasagoula Chronicle has been the target of a terrorism group which has written its name on the back of the sheriff's office, to put the liberal paper out of business. Editor Eda Harkey wrote the following letter on employees who worked there:

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**Close Up: Voter Registration**

**The Bad Check Case**

Bob Moses brings FREE PRESS readers a close up of the voter registration campaign that is currently being carried on in the Mississippi Delta.

Unlike most of the registration workers, Bob Moses is not a Negro. He came to Mississippi to see what it was like, living here in Mississippi. He was amazed by what he found and by the way the people were changing the situation. He is now the head of the Mississippi Council of Federated Organizations.

A Letter From Chicago

By Bob Moses

The county attorney indicated that he was ready to begin the Jurney to Farquar and Valley Lake as soon as the check was cashed. "We have no reason to doubt your word," he said. "We will have the check cashed, and the case will be handled.

I asked for permission to speak for Mr. Surry and was summarily refused by the prosecuting attorney with a weak echo by the Judge.

There was a sudden ripple in the room, and I heard the voice of one of the Civil Rights Commission staff members say, "I can't stand it any longer."

Coudn't Speak

I asked again for permission to represent Mr. Surry. "You are not on the court," he replied. "But the county attorney repeated that he did not have to tell me that. "This Judge" mumbled his agreement and the trial began:

Mr. Edwin Downer testified that Jeff Surry gave the name to the judge and the county attorney called Jeff two times and Jeff was sent the check. Mr. Surry, the judge, decided that the check was for two times.

Mr. Parker Brit testified that he had no idea how much the bank of Riceville had stamped. The paper came out but Mr. Surry had an account at the bank.

Mr. Surry did not testify and cross-examined the witnesses.

Found Guilty

The 'Judge' deliberated with the county attorney and found Jeff Surry was found guilty and bound over for $300 for the circuit court, where he will meet trial in March.

Then the questions began pounding in my mind:

- What did I do and send Mr. Surry to the jail at Indianola, where he was arrested, as well as one for March. The deputy sheriff, Mr. Bradley, called to Charles Coeho and myself that the signature was on the February check didn't look right. Did he send the prosecuting attorney present for the check trial last month?

What is the meaning of Mr. Surry's case being heard by Mr. Surry? She told us she didn't know Mr. Surry and that if we could have her two other ladies from Riceville, that Jeff paid them for the two checks. This was because of the writer of the checks.

But if this is so, why didn't Mr. Surry tell the police, since the checks were received in February and March.

He told her that it hurt him to have someone else say that he paid the checks. He is just like 1776 anybody else but Jeff he wouldn't have cared. He said he didn't have the checks on his mind but that Jeff must have been missing them. The innumerable lies and misinformed stories of the Government and the Communists and how the Government was forced to do, they made him do it.

If Jeff Surry, his wife and children, come from the depths of the same hole, say, signing for a dimension of Freedom.

Mississippi Rocking

Mississippi is rocking on her knees in back yard. I wonder what would happen if all the Negroes in Mississippi were to rise up in one night and say, "Governor Barnett do that?"

This is something. I know he wouldn't do anything. It's not in his nature. It's in any case: surrounded and do I have any idea of the number of years of history, now we are in need of some "Rebels," some "Young, smart white folks."

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Book On Jim Crow Points Out Key To Southern Freedom


By Lucy Kambar

At the heart of the problem is “the peculiar economic depend-ence of Negro “croppers” and tenant-farmers on the old Southern black-belt set-ting.”

With this truth as a spring-board, one brief section of Dis- crimination, by Wallace Mendelson, discusses a significant survey of eight Southern states made by U. S. Department of Agriculture in 1939. In that year eight states had 138 coun-tries with Negro majorities; in 31, less than 3% were regis-tered to vote.

A sample of 17 non-voting counties included six in Missis-sippi (Carroll, DeSoto, Lee, Le-queena, Leflore, Quitman, and Tate); three in South Carolina, two in Alabama and Louisiana, and one each in Florida, Georg-ia, North Carolina and Tennessee. A comparison with four voting counties in Louisiana, Georgia and Virginia revealed some-thing meaningful in the states.

The counties where Negroes were not registered were pre-dominantly agricultural, relying on crops like cotton; most Negro farmers were conscientiously dependent upon white landlords and store keepers. However, two counties with diversified crop systems and some industry had higher incomes for Negroes.

In an analysis of the voting counties, Mendelson remarks that the “lowly service rendered by Negroes in the courts of justice is janitorial, janitorial, janitorial.”

In short, Mendelson decisively illustrates that with the vote granted, the Negroes would have the power to improve their own eco-nomic destinies, Negroes can improve their moral and physical age, which scars their teeth.

The major part of Discrimination is in black and white, basic areas in which unfair practices flourish, in Negroes’ housing, employment, police brutality. It is a useful introduction for the large sec-tion of the public which remains unaware of the extent of Negroes in the South. However, individuals who seek informa-tion in depth of this vital area of society should refer to the Civil Rights Commission’s original report, which included the vol-umes (voting, education, housing, employment, and justice).

The Importance of The Family Group

This week the FREE PRESS begins the third of four very important articles dealing with the needs of children as they grow up. The FREE PRESS is proud to have these articles written by Jeanette Beatie. All parents or someday-parents are encouraged to clip and save these articles. They may help your family to grow up bigger and happier.

By Jeanette Beatie

Third In A Series

Last week we discussed the needs of the child. This week we expect as a person and suggestions of two ways to give to the first child this feeling and forget to work out ways to give it to the latter. We can build up pride in members of the family by talking about sweet considerate things that each one does.

"Wants it nice and thoughtful of Charlie to ask you if you fish hooks you wanted?" as a way to show love and the other things. Everyday father does some little thing that makes the children happy. This also makes father feel happier that he is included in the family.

When all the older children have gone away to school in the winter, it is hard for the little one to have his parents at home in the kitchen and say this to a child: "We also have home to keep Mama company." If a brother or sister is helping with the little one, they can help with his success with their pride.

But Be Careful

But we must be very careful not to suggest to one child that he should copy the behavior and habits of the same class as another child. If the does well in his arithmetic at school, we can speak about it with pride, but also remember to later mention how well Sam can saw wood — or something else that is more difficult for the other child. This lets each child feel needed and accepted in the family. Our last chapter is entitled, for each child wants to be liked himself and not just like his brother or sister.

A Family Needs Rules

Every group needs rules to go by. The family needs rules that every member feels are just and according to the family’s own rules. Perhaps one can explain it to them and put them so that everyone knows just what they are.

Parents and Family Jobs

Members of a family need jobs that are fitting for each one. This idea is not an easy one for children the idea of responsi-bility, and the older child brings up the subject. But the other child would enjoy decorating the table with flowers and perhaps make the biscuits.

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Mississippiians Attend Session On Improving Life For Farmers

Seveneent Mississippians traveled 45 miles to attend a conference entitled, "A Better Life for Farm Families." The three-day clinic, sponsored by the National Sharecroppers Fund, was held in a rural atmosphere 80 miles west of Durham, North Carolina.

The conference brought together farmers from all parts of the Southern states and representatives of the various organizations that are interested in advancement for rural Southerners. Officials representing agencies of the government that serve the farmer also attended the meeting.

Purpose Of Conference

In the past decade, over four million Southerner farmers have been uprooted from their homes. The continuing decline of opportunities in small scale farming and the lack of alternative employment in rural areas have forced many families off the land without the means to better their living elsewhere. The conference was called to help locate practical steps rural families can take to remain in farming, to obtain other employment near their homes, or to gain skills necessary to secure permanent jobs elsewhere.

Problems Not New

The Mississippi delegation, which was the largest besides the group from host state, North Carolina, represented too late to hear the keynote address by Dr. Lewis V. Jones of Florida University. It is called, "Flowing the Row Again." Its task noted that the problems of the South's transition from a declining one-crop economy to other forms of permanent employment are not new but that progress can be made by utilizing the available tools represented by the personnel at the conference.

Government Programs

Throughout the course of the conference, the delegates were introduced to the many programs that the federal government has designed expressly for the changing rural economy. The programs included direct cash assistance and long term loans for community re-development; leading to more jobs; training programs to enable people to qualify for "well" jobs; and the different loan programs available through the Farmers Home Administration.

It was necessary for the conference delegates to discuss problems of implementing the programs in the face of hostile local supervisors. Most Federal programs are handled by local officials.

Need For Education

Looking into the crystal ball, C. E. Bishop, head of the Dept. of Agricultural Economics at North Carolina State College, suggested that most vital to progress in the rural South is education. He said that the South was going to have to pay the price for high standard education or it was going to have to remain in its poor condition.

Miss. Wants Own Conf.

Tentative plans were laid in the Mississippi state workshop.

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