

Mississippi FREE PRESS

"The Truth Shall Make You Free"

Vol. 2, No. 6



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10c Per Copy

Miss. Group Calls For C. R. Hearings

Condemns Postponement; Criticizes Attorney Gen.

The Mississippi Council of Federated Organizations last week criticized the U. S. Civil Rights Commission for postponing Mississippi hearings and called for immediate public hearings by the federal body.

The state group expressed its disagreement with Attorney General Robert Kennedy's request to put off hearings and deplored the fact that Kennedy appeared to have so much control over the activities of the Commission.

Never Held Miss. Hearings

The telegram sent to the Civil Rights Commission in Washington, D. C., read "During the almost six years of your existence you have not yet held hearings in Mississippi—where the greatest deprivations of civil rights occur in this nation. You have repeatedly—at least five or six times—planned and scheduled hearings in Mississippi."

"Each time you have disappointed us in failing to live up to your obligations. We hereby now call upon you to do your duty and to hold a full scale public hearing in Mississippi forthwith."

Disagree With Atty. Gen.

"We read with great regret the decision made by the Attorney General of the United States in his brief statement of a few days ago to the effect that such a hearing would be unwise in Mississippi at this time. We disagree with the Attorney General in the strongest possible terms."

"We are firmly convinced that such hearings are long overdue in Mississippi and that

it is absolutely necessary that the people of the United States and of the State of Mississippi be informed of the true facts that exist in our state. We also deplore the obvious degree of control over the Civil Rights Commission that is apparently exercised by the Attorney General and the Department of Justice.

Should Use Powers

"We believe that you should not only be an independent agency but should exercise your powers, in fact, without supervision by the Department of Justice."

(Continued on Page 4)

Clarksdale Program Honors Emancipation

"Freedom Is Not Yet" is the theme of the Coahoma County NAACP Emancipation Proclamation program set for Sunday, January 20 at the Haven Methodist Church in Clarksdale. The open meeting, scheduled for 3 p.m., will feature Attorney Derrick A. Bell, the lawyer of record in the James Meredith case.

Special reserved seats will be given to all people with 1962 poll tax receipts. The receipts must be presented at the door. However, everyone will be admitted—with or without poll tax receipts.

Mr. Bell, who was previously with the U. S. Justice Department, is presently on the staff of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. The New York attorney declared, "I have seen the misery of my people in Mississippi. Mississippi will not be rid of me until my black brothers and sisters there are free."

Kennard Appeals To Federal Court; State Supreme Court Rejects Plea

Attorney's for Clyde Kennard have appealed to the 5th U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals for a hearing on a new trial and the Mississippi Supreme Court has turned down a separate petition for a new trial.

State Supreme Court Justice W. N. Ethridge, Jr., said in his decision January 14 that Kennard's lawyers had not shown adequate new evidence. "The trial court and this court considered carefully the evidence and concluded that Kennard failed to show any such systematic exclusion (of Negroes from the jury)," he declared.

No Negro Jurors

Ethridge also said that the federal court order telling Forrest County Registrar Theron Lynd to cease discrimination against Negro voters was only

Justice Dept. Voter Suits Are Fought In Many State Counties

FORREST COUNTY

The U. S. Supreme Court Monday rejected Mississippi's appeal to overrule a court order permitting the Justice Department to inspect Forrest County voter records.

The court order was issued by the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans based on the 1960 Civil Rights Act.

Attorneys for Forrest County Circuit Clerk Theron Lynd January 3 asked the Circuit Court to clear Lynd of contempt charges filed by the Justice Department under the Civil Rights Act of 1957.

Ask Jail For Lynd

In the first action of this kind, the Justice Department asked the court to jail Lynd for 45 days and to direct him to register 43 Negroes. "Illegally denied registration."

In November, the Supreme Court refused to review a Circuit Court order telling Lynd to register Negro applicants without discrimination. Thus the non-discrimination order continued to stand.

The Court of Appeals ruled to permit inspection of the voter records July 11 when it reversed District Judge Harold Cox's January decision that the case was dead.

The Justice Department told the Supreme Court that it had already inspected some of the Forrest County records, but de-

(Continued on Page 3)

temporary and not a final edict. Kennard's petition was based on Justice Department findings that Forrest County Negroes cannot register; he claims that they were excluded from the jury which indicted him. Jurors are picked from the lists of registered voters.

Appeal To Circuit Court

Jackson Attorney R. Jess Brown January 9 filed an appeal with the Circuit Court in New Orleans asking for a reversal of a decision by U. S. District Judge Harold Cox. Cox denied Brown's request for a hearing to determine if a new trial should be granted.

The appeal to the federal court was made before the decision from the State court was handed down.

Meredith Hits Constant Harassment At U. M.

Justice Dept. Says Administration Does Not Punish Troublemakers

"We are engaged in a war, a bitter war for the 'equality of opportunity' of our citizens. The enemy is determined, resourceful, and unprincipled. There are no rules of war for which he has respect. Some standards must be set."

So said James Meredith January 7 when he announced that he might take a temporary leave of absence from the University of Mississippi.

"Some pattern must be established so that those who are

Pastor Wins Backing Of Church Board On Position Against Bias

One of the 28 white Methodist ministers who signed a statement opposing racial discrimination has received a vote of confidence from his congregation.

The Board of Stewards of the Oakland Heights Methodist Church voted last week to support their pastor, Rev. Edward McRae.

One group of church members had circulated a petition asking that McRae be released from his post, but the Board's decision means that the minister will remain with the Oakland church.

Want Vote On Integration

In other developments, a Methodist laymen's group had issued a statement supporting segregation. The Mississippi Association of Methodist Ministers and Laymen criticized the idea that the church is an instrument of "social revolution" and suggested that congregations throughout the state vote to decide upon integrating their churches.

Wants Free Speech

Rev. Roy Clark, pastor of the Capitol Street Methodist Church in Jackson asked in his sermon last Sunday, "Do ministers and laymen have the right to freely

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fighting for equality of opportunity and those who are fighting for the right to oppress can clash in the struggle without disaster falling upon either group," Meredith declared.

Nothing Decided

"Presently," he said, "there is too much doubt and uncertainty regarding the procedure to be followed in settling our problems. No major issues have been decided legally or officially, illegally or unofficially."

Meredith stated, "For some time I have considered my course of action for the future. . . I have decided not to register for classes during the second semester at the University of Mississippi unless very definite and positive changes are made to make my situation more conducive to learning."

Not Leaving University

He emphasized that he is not planning to leave the University permanently; he merely will not register next semester if the present harassment continues. Meredith underlined the fact that he will definitely remain in Mississippi.

After Meredith's statement, Attorney General Robert Kennedy declared that although many faculty members have made an effort to "obey the court's orders and assist Mr. Meredith in getting an education . . . a number of officials charged with the administration of the university have not met

(Continued on Page 4)

1962-POLL TAX RECEIPT-1962

County, Mississippi	
Miss. Date	19
Received Of	Receipt No.
Address	Ward
The Sum Of TWO AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$2.00)	
Poll Tax For Year 1963, As Per H.B. 206	
Laws Of The Regular Session 1950	
Sheriff And Tax Collector	
By	
Deputy	

This is the month to pay your poll tax. See important information about the poll tax on Page 2.

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

Editorial Page

Fear Prevents Progress

The feature article on Page 3 sheds some light on what makes white Southerners such violent racists. And it also points out some of the basic problems which we face here in Mississippi.

We know that people are not born to hate. It is not natural for Negroes and whites to hate and fear each other. When we look a little closer, we discover that the "traditional customs" of this state were invented and defended for reasons which the segregationists usually don't mention.

The article points out that the rise of the Citizens Councils was not merely centered around segregation, but that they grew up to promote the ideas of conservatism.

Citizens Council conservatives, points out the U. S. National Student Association report, attack whatever they dislike as a communist plot—the Supreme Court, the federal government, the President.

Thus the conservatives attempt to prevent free speech by attacking their enemies as communists—one Citizens Council member even complained recently that he was afraid to criticize Council chief William Simmons because he would be accused of communist sympathies.

By making people who disagree afraid to oppose them, the racists have created a climate of ignorance and fear in Mississippi. One legislator said that they didn't always want to go along with the segregationist measures—often they were stupid laws—but they were afraid not to.

Thus the state legislature has passed laws making it necessary to teach white supremacy to school children. The Mississippi legislature has given thousands of dollars to the White Citizens Council to support their hate campaigns.

And of course, Mississippi legislatures and congressmen must vote against any measures which are called "socialistic"—such as federal aid to education, medical care for the aged and increased unemployment benefits.

(It is interesting to note, however, that some conservative Mississippians favor federal aid when it goes into their own pockets. Mississippi Farm Bureau President Boswell Stevens this week called for higher federal price supports for cotton at the same time that he warned the farmers of their duty to prevent the government from controlling their businesses through too much financial aid. He didn't say how much was too much.)

These policies hurt all the people of Mississippi—black and white. When Governor Barnett talks about the high percentage of industrial growth, he doesn't mention where Mississippi is starting from—the bottom.

If you have \$1 and get \$2 more, that is a 200% increase. If you have \$10 and get \$3 more, that is only a 30% increase. It all depends on where you start. Most people would rather have \$13 than \$3. No matter how Barnett juggles the figures, it all ends up the same, with Mississippi on the bottom—with the lowest standard of living in the nation.

And our problems are made more serious by the fact that people are afraid to speak out with solutions—afraid of the conservatives and racists who control public opinion.

This is why you have to speak your mind. This is why you have to register to vote and pay your poll tax. You have to become interested in politics. You have to make and support the laws which will get Mississippi off the bottom of the heap and make a better life for the people of this state.

You have to liberate the Negroes who are exploited and oppressed and you have to free the whites who are the prisoners of ignorance and fear. It's a big job. Register, pay your poll tax and vote!

Are You Required To Pay Poll Tax?

Now is the time to pay your poll tax!

Throughout the state groups of people are conducting poll tax campaigns in an effort to add increased numbers of Negro voters to the poll books. The United States Justice Department has joined in the effort by investigating and prosecuting county registrars who refuse to accept poll taxes from Negro citizens.

If you want to vote on the important reapportionment amendment February 5, you must have paid poll taxes for 1961 and 1962. Now is the time to pay your 1962 tax.

All Mississippians between the ages of 21 and 60 must pay a \$2 or \$3 poll tax in order to vote. You are exempt from the tax if you have lost a hand or foot, if you are blind, deaf or dumb, or if you are in the armed services.

If any of these categories apply to you, go to your county court house to get an exemption certificate. If you are over 80 years old, you must bring proof

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:

I glorify you in the great work that has gone out and is still coming out from the Free Press. It is the news that makes the Negro stand up and be counted. Everyone here in Amite County that I give the paper to wants another paper.

Please publish this. Amite County, Mississippi: the NAACP is sponsoring a poll tax drive. Now is the time to pay your poll tax, from 21 to 60.

Today is the time. Don't let anyone discourage you. That is the key to freedom and unity. Open the door. Ask your friend to go down and pay his or her poll tax.

Stand up Amite County and ask for what is yours. The day has come for every man and woman to let the world know what side you are on. Stand up.

E. W. Steptoe
Osyka, Mississippi

of age, such as a birth certificate or drivers license.

If you are not exempt, you have only until February 1 to pay your poll tax.

Man Suffers Internal Injuries From Police Attack In Pascagoula

Laplois Ashford, recently appointed NAACP youth secretary has undergone an emergency operation for a ruptured ulcer.

He says he was roughed up by police during his arrest in Pascagoula, Mississippi, on November 7, following his refusal to purchase his Greyhound bus ticket at a Jim Crow window.

Doctors at the Veterans' Hospital here in New York agreed that Ashford's condition resulted from a blow.

Greyhound Blames Taxi Driver

The young man pointed out to the arresting police that the ICC ruling forbids such practices. He was jailed.

The Greyhound company has denied all responsibility for the incident, placing the blame on "an idle taxi driver who was loitering on the premises."

The Company also declared that this specific "discriminatory practice has been eliminated and tickets for colored and white are now sold at one window."

Remember Clyde Kennard

People throughout Mississippi and from all parts of the United States have been horrified and saddened at the cruel punishment meted out to Clyde Kennard for the crime of wanting to attend Mississippi Southern University. Widespread support has been generated for his release and many Free Press readers have asked us to reprint the petition to the President and the Attorney general which appeared in our Christmas issue.

Get your friends and club members to sign this petition—and ask them to secure signatures. Additional copies of this issue can be obtained by writing to the Free Press.

After each petition has been signed, send it to the Mississippi Student Committee to Free Clyde Kennard, Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi.

Petition To Free Clyde Kennard

TO: PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

ATTORNEY GENERAL ROBERT F. KENNEDY

We, the undersigned, urgently appeal for the release of Clyde Kennard who is now serving a seven year sentence in Parchman Penitentiary. Convicted on charges of planning the theft and receiving \$25 worth of chicken feed, he is in fact a political prisoner—jailed because he, a Negro, applied to all-white Mississippi Southern University in Hattiesburg, his home.

According to the testimony of the State's witness, Johnny Lee Roberts, who confessed to the theft, Mr. Kennard did not have the necessary knowledge of the warehouse and of the watchman's schedule to have planned the robbery. The contradictions and general lack of evidence in the trial record are sufficient to constitute a denial of due process of law.

Further, as proved in federal courts, Negroes are systematically excluded from registering to vote in Forrest County, the scene of the trial, and were thus excluded from the grand jury which indicted Mr. Kennard. This too is a denial of constitutional rights.

Lastly, it is a tenet of our constitutional law that what the State may not do by direction, it may not do by indirection. By convicting Clyde Kennard, the State of Mississippi has made a successful and unveiled attempt to persecute him for applying to Mississippi Southern University.

We petition you to file an amicus curae brief on behalf of Clyde Kennard—as you did for James Meredith.

We appeal for justice.

NAME

ADDRESS

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
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Justice Department . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

sired to see more recent ones. The Justice Department first tried to examine the records in August, 1960.

JEFFERSON DAVIS COUNTY

The Registrar of Jefferson Davis County has been ordered to register all voter applicants without racial discrimination and to add to the books anyone registered before January 1, 1954, when stricter voting laws were adopted. The Justice Department had accused Jefferson Davis Circuit Clerk James Daniel of setting different requirements for whites and Negroes and of making Negroes registered before 1954 meet the new requirements.

In the order signed January 4, U. S. District Judge Harold Cox directed that Negroes and whites be required to interpret the same sections of the Constitution. He suggested that Daniel choose about 50 sections of the Constitution and have applicants draw for sections to interpret.

Tests A Sham

The Justice Department has charged that Daniel made Negroes take stiff registration tests, but that for whites, the tests were "a sham." The government said that Daniel did not even grade the tests taken by whites.

Cox stated that he wanted to inspect the details of any case involving the rejection of a Negro applicant.

Said Registrar Sincere

The federal judge did not comply with the Justice Department's request for an injunction against Daniel. He said that he wanted to avoid "government by injunction" and asserted that Daniel appeared to speak "in good faith" when he made a "sincere and conscientious statement" asking instructions from the court and promising to immediately obey all orders.

Cox said that he would enter a final judgement after seeing how the registrar handled voter

registration under the temporary order.

WARREN COUNTY

Four Justice Department agents inspected voter records in Vicksburg last week armed with a court order from District Judge Harold Cox.

The federal representatives photographed the registration records with an automatic photostat machine which films all information.

Likes Legality

Warren County Circuit Clerk Noel Nutt stated, "Although all the voter registration records are a matter of public record and may be examined by any citizen at any time, I feel that an examination by federal officials should be done in a legal manner."

Nutt refused to let Justice Department officials examine the voter records until they got a court order November 29.

COPIAH COUNTY

Two Justice Department officials and three FBI agents January 5 photographed voter records in Hazlehurst. The federal officials examined applications, registration forms and the payment of poll taxes as part of an investigation into discrimination against Negro applicants.

Copiah County Circuit Clerk A. B. Weeks refused the Justice Department's first request to see the records September 17, 1962. Then December 10, U. S. District Judge Harold Cox granted a Justice Department request ordering Weeks to permit the inspection.

TALLAHATCHIE COUNTY

The Justice Department has asked the 5th U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals to order the sheriff of Tallahatchie County to accept poll tax payments from Negroes.

The federal petition appealed a decision of U. S. District Judge Claude Clayton who declined to enjoin Sheriff Ellet Dogan from refusing to accept the tax payments.

Says Efforts 'Superficial'

Clayton said that only four Negroes had tried to pay taxes during Dogan's term of office and that two has been exempt because of their age. He charged that the efforts of Negroes to pay their taxes were

Racists Brainwash White Southerners In Childhood

This article is reprinted from the Current magazine campus supplement which was written by the United States National Student Association. It reveals some of the reasons why white Southerners act as they do. Next week we will print the second half of the article which deals with the forces that influence Southern Negroes.

The University of North Carolina has recently released a study showing that the most prejudiced people in America fall into the 18-29 age group.

A person who is 18 years old today would have been in the 4th grade in 1954, when the original Supreme Court decision on school desegregation was made. Since that time, if he were white and lived in Mississippi, he would have studied a book in public elementary school called A Manual for Southerners prepared by the White Citizens Council.

His response to it would have been graded on the same basis as any other test. The Manual informed him that the white

"superficial" and not "bona fide."

Justice Department attorney Howard Gluckstein asserted that the sheriff has discriminated against Negroes in violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1957 and asked that he accept all poll tax payments for 1962, '63 and '64.

LEE COUNTY

The Justice Department has accused Lee County Registrar Paul Grissom of contempt of court for refusing to allow federal officials to inspect Lee County voter registration books.

Grissom refused to comply with an order given in August to open his books. The Justice Department sought to investigate complaints that Negroes have been denied registration.

Grissom's attorney has filed a motion to dismiss the government action and U. S. District Judge Claude Clayton had given federal lawyers until January 14 to answer the petition.

race is superior and that many forces are trying to destroy his society.

When he reached high school, each spring his school promoted an essay contest, sponsored by the White Citizens Council which offered prizes of U. S. Savings Bonds to the students who wrote the best essays on the Southern way of life, Communist infiltration, racial purity and related subjects.

Required Reading On White Supremacy

As he grew older, he was ready for more advanced study. By a resolution of the State Legislature, his library (high school and college) contained *Race and Reason—A Yankee View*, a book which told him that the American people have been duped by the anthropological studies on the matter of race.

It assured him that the Negro is, in fact, inferior, that he can never be integrated into white society, and any integration that might occur will lead, without fail, to a "parasitic deterioration" of the superior white culture.

The young Mississippian saw this book reviewed and praised by the *American Bar Journal*, by Senators Richard Russell and Harry Byrd and by others to whom he had looked for leadership all of his life.

Of equal importance, the book assured him that he was not alone—that there were many people outside the South, some with advanced degrees in many fields, who were in-

terested in his struggle to prevent the destruction of his society and to stop the great "plot" that was leading to this destruction.

Conservative Movement

During these years he was also given the opportunity to learn who was involved in the "plot," for the White Citizens Councils were gaining strength everywhere, and William Simmons' prophecy of 1915 was proving true—that the growth of these Councils was not centered simply around the racial issue but that it meant the first rumblings of a conservative revolt.

The rise of the John Birch Society and similar groups followed the Citizens Councils, and all of them reminded the young scholar, by now well-versed in reactionary thought, that the Federal Government was not to be trusted, that his President was part of the Communist conspiracy, that his highest court was part of the plot and that everything in which he believed most deeply was in extreme danger.

Believe Integration Is 'Plot'

Thus, it should not be surprising that, as a college freshman or sophomore at Ole Miss, he would be found in the mob in front of the Lyceum Building, defying what he believed to be the unconstitutional decision of people involved in a Communist-dominated plot.

He was there, but it wasn't just James Meredith he was after; he was after the enemy he has been made to live with since the 4th grade—the enemy that was about to steal the package containing the values and meaning of all his years of existence.



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Meredith Hits . . .

(Continued from Page 1)
their responsibilities."

Continuous Harassment

Reports from the Ole Miss campus indicate that harassment of Meredith has been constant and continuous since he enrolled — and not something that was only recently sparked by his announcement.

A Justice Department official declared that much of the harassment was due to weak university officials who failed to control and punish students who ignored the regulations. Ole Miss Chancellor J. D. Williams said "We were getting along quietly before the press conference." However, after the Justice Department statement, he announced that further demonstrations in the school cafeteria would not be permitted.

Jackson Firms . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

rest sparked the boycott argued that their case should be tried in federal court, but that U. S. District Judge Harold Cox was biased in favor of desegregation and should disqualify himself from the proceedings.

Cox gave the group's attorneys until January 18 to file additional papers asking for his disqualification.

William Kunstler, arguing on behalf of the picketers, declared, "We may go to the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals if we lose the disqualification motion."

Pastor Wins . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

discuss the merits and demerits of segregation and related subjects without reprisal or intimidation?"

Mississippi Methodist Lay Leader Dr. J. P. Stafford has sent a letter of commendation to the original 28 ministers who signed the "Born of Conviction" statement.

Secret Supporters

He warned them of the pressures that would result from their stand and declared, "When the shooting starts and you are far apart, maybe it will help to know that hundreds of consecrated laymen will applaud you and countless others will wish you well in secret—that lack the courage or fortitude to come out into the open."

Selah's Board Comments

The Board of Galloway Methodist Church has issued a statement commenting on the recent declaration of their pastor, Dr. W. B. Selah, who publicly declared that segregation is sinful.

The group asserted its "full and complete confidence in the integrity of opinion" Selah and the associate pastor, Jerry Furr who signed the original statement. It stated, however, that the views of Selah and Furr were not necessarily those of the members of the congregation, which includes Jackson Mayor Allen Thompson.

"It is not un-Christian that we prefer to remain an all-white congregation," said the Board. It expressed its hope that separation of the races in Galloway Church would always continue.

Bishop And Superintendents

The bishop and district superintendents of the Mississippi Conference also issued a statement explaining that congregations do not have either forced integration or forced segregation.

"Tensions of many kinds are in the world today, among them is that of race relations," the group said. "The ninth amendment to the Constitution of the Methodist Church places racial relationships on a voluntary basis. By the provisions of this amendment, integration is not forced upon any part of our church."

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Clergymen Charge False Arrest; Sue Jackson Official For \$44,004

Four Episcopal ministers are seeking \$44,004 in damages for deprivation of civil rights and false arrest arising out of their arrest in the white waiting room of Jackson's Trailways bus terminal. The interracial group is suing three arresting police officers and the judge who found them guilty.

The clergymen, James P. Breeden of Boston, James B. Morris of Atlanta, James G. Jones Jr. of Chicago and Robert L. Pierson of New York, recently filed a motion claiming that the city officials failed to file answering briefs within the legal time limit. They asked for a default judgement. However, U. S. District Judge Harold Cox rejected the motion, ruling that the city officials had filed motions with the court.

Claimed Immunity

Cox also rejected a motion by the defendants to dismiss the case. The defendants, Judge James L. Spencer and police officers J. L. Ray, D. A. Nichols and J. D. Griffith, declared that they had been acting in their official capacities and were thus immune from civil suit. Cox denied the petitions to dismiss charges against the policemen, but told attorneys for the ministers to answer a motion to remove Judge Spencer as a defendant.

The clergymen were arrested in September 1961 on charges that their presence in the wait-

ing room "might have" caused a breach of the peace. The four ministers in the suit were among 15 clergymen on a prayer pilgrimage from New Orleans to the General Convention of their Church in Detroit.

Case Dismissed

The four were convicted in city court, but Hinds County Judge Russell Moore dismissed the case against Rev. Jones on the grounds that the evidence showed no violation of the law. Jackson's City Prosecutor then moved to dismiss the charges against the 14 other ministers, since the evidence was the same; the motion was granted.

Four of the clergymen last year filed a suit for damages charging that they were arrested, convicted and jailed "for the sole purpose of enforcing the segregation laws, customs, policies and usages of the State of Mississippi."

Deprived Of Rights

The ministers charged that they were "deprived of their rights, privileges, and immunities as citizens of the United States . . . to travel freely among the states of the United States, to equal protection of the laws, and to due process of law."

They assert that they were "intentionally falsely arrested, confined, detained and imprisoned . . . without legal cause, process or justification."

Attorneys for the ministers are Carl Rachlin, counsel for CORE, and William Higgs, a Jackson attorney. The defendants are represented by Thomas Watkins and E. W. Stennett.

Miss. Group . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Justice, to the end to secure civil rights for all citizens.

"We further believe that had the Civil Rights Commission been acquainting the nation and the citizens of Mississippi with circumstances in our state over the past few years, much bloodshed, violence, and turmoil would have been prevented—and will be prevented if you fulfill your obligations."

"We respectfully urge your most immediate consideration of these matters."

New Factory Plans To Promote Equality

A new Jackson plant will offer Negroes job opportunities on all levels, it was learned last week. The American Shoe Company has begun to sell stock to establish the factory.

The corporation's president, John Oakes of Yazoo City, declared that the company was based on "the belief that the Negro has the intellect, the will and the creative imagination to do great things."

The firm, organized by an interracial group, seeks "to release the enormous potentialities of the Negro."

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