

Greenwood

Morsell To Speak; Vote Classes Given

Dr. John A. Morsell, Assistant to the National Executive Secretary of the NAACP, will speak for the Greenwood Freedom Movement Monday, March 25, at 7:30 in the Turner Chapel A.M.E. Church.

Mass meetings and citizenship schools continue in Greenwood, in spite of fear and harassment, a voter registration worker told the FREE PRESS. Increasing numbers of high school students are offering their help.

Citizenship Education

A Citizenship Education Program directed by Miss Annell Ponder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference is training local leaders to organize and conduct citizenship classes in Greenwood and surrounding areas.

Two classes are now teaching adults how to register and vote. They are also taught how the government works, are helped to improve their reading and writing, and are shown ways of "solving problems related to first class citizenship."

Ten teachers will complete their training this week and will start teaching classes at once. People who would like to join or teach citizenship classes can contact the Greenwood Voter Registration Office, 115 E. McLaurin Street, or call GL 3-1282.

Egg Hit Girl

SNCC worker James McDonald told the FREE PRESS that

(Continued on Page 4)

U. M. Registrar Puts Off Greene's Petition

The Registrar of the University of Mississippi has told Dewey Greene that it will not consider his petition for admission until the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals rules on his appeal for immediate entrance.

Greene appealed to the Committee on Admissions in February after the Appeals Court postponed a ruling on his request and suggested that he appeal to the University Committee.

Sent Through Channels

The 5th Circuit thereby upheld a ruling by Judge Sidney Mize who told Greene that he had not gone through the proper University channels with his appeal for admission.

Registrar Robert Ellis wrote Greene: "On the advice of our counsel (the petition) will not be presented to the Committee (on Admissions) until such time as the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit has ruled on your pending appeal from the decision made by District Court."

Greene said that his attorney will ask the Appeals Court to order the Committee on Admissions to consider the petition.



Dr. John A. Morsell

ILGWU Gives \$25,000 Worth Of New Clothing

Local 99 of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) in New York has sent \$25,000 worth of new clothing and shoes to Clarksdale for distribution to needy families.

When CORE requested aid from the union, the members of the local met and decided to give their support.

Food From Chicago

A large shipment of food from Chicago was sent to Greenwood as part of the nationwide aid campaign. A SNCC representative there asked Gov. Barnett "to take extraordinary measures to guarantee the safe conduct of this shipment, the driver and the truck delivering it."

Supt. Of Education Says Keep Our Schools Open

Mississippi public schools must remain open, members of the state Board of Education, the Mississippi Economic Council and the Parent-Teacher Association said last week.

Three public school desegregation suits have been filed in Federal District Court in recent weeks, but state law permits closing the schools to prevent desegregation.

State School Supt. J. M. Tubb told the Mississippi Women's Cabinet of Public Affairs that the welfare of the children and the future of the state must be put above all else.

Would Hurt Economy

"Closing the schools would bring to a halt the wheels of industry on the borders of our state and destroy the dreams we have had for a great state whose economy would be based upon agriculture and a great industry," he declared.

Tubb said that the board of education has not devised a

Arrest U. S. Attorney In Greenwood Station

Continue Illegal Segregation In Spite Of I.C.C. Orders

The Assistant General Counsel of the U. S. Civil Rights Commission was arrested last Thursday when he walked into Greyhound's "colored waiting room" in Greenwood.

It was recently learned that four girls were threatened and beaten by men armed with chains and brass knuckles when they tried to use the white waiting room of the McComb Illinois Central Railroad Station less than a month ago.

Held Without Charge

Civil Rights Commission attorney Chester Relyea was arrested and held without charge for 45 minutes by Deputy Sheriff Wilbur Smith on March 14.

Relyea said that he arrived at the Greenwood terminal after riding from Clarksdale. He reported that Smith was standing at the station directing people to the white and Negro waiting rooms.

The rooms no longer have signs "white" or "colored" since the Interstate Commerce Commission has ruled that segregated waiting rooms are illegal.

Officers Enforce Segregation

Jim McDonald of Greenwood told the FREE PRESS that a law enforcement officer usually meets buses to force people to use separate waiting rooms.

Relyea ignored Smith's directions and entered the Negro waiting room. The Deputy followed him in and told him to leave. When Relyea refused and showed him his credentials, Smith arrested him.

At the police station Relyea asked the charge and was told that he could be held on several charges, but Smith would not

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Action Begins To Make Segregation Expensive

An article in the Wall Street Journal indicates that school segregation may become expensive for some of the big money men who own the bonds that finance segregated schools in the South.

Legal action is being brought against an investment banking concern for underwriting a \$1,850,000 tax-exempt bond issue of Gulfport, Mississippi, for the Municipal Separate School District.

Prevent Exemption

The action will try to prevent the bonds from being tax-exempt on the basis that they are providing funds for an illegal program (illegal because it is segregated in violation to a Supreme Court order).

Without tax-exemption the bonds will lose their earning power for the holders.

Illegal Projects

The Congress of Racial Equality, which is sponsoring the protest, claims that these companies are supplying funds for an improper and illegal project.

It is trying to draw public attention to this point. If it is successful, it will become too expensive for investing concerns to buy the bonds of segregated school districts and the 'illegal' system will have to be curtailed.

Frazier Will File Third Application For Southern U.

The University of Southern Mississippi for the second time turned down the application of John Frazier, a student now at Campbell Junior College in Jackson.

Frazier told the FREE PRESS that he will apply again for the June term. He said that he wants to be admitted without going to court.

Will Seek Court Order

However, Frazier said that if his third application is turned down, he will seek a court order.

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Union Man Candidate For State Legislature

The president of the McComb Central Labor Union is a candidate for the Mississippi House of Representatives.

Ray Smith, also president of Local 3513 of the Communications Workers of America, is a Southern Bell Telephone Company worker.

The Central Labor Union is made up of all the local unions in the city.

Citizens In Quitman Form Voter League

Negro citizens in Quitman County and Marks, the county seat, have organized a United Order of Voters League.

J. V. Preston of Marks told the FREE PRESS: "The people of Quitman County have found out that the vote is the key to unlock segregation, and segregation is not as healthy as it was a few years ago."

The group meets every Tuesday evening, 7:30 p.m., at the Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church. Preston said, "Everyone is invited—voters or not, young and old."

Clarksdale Police Threaten Students From Iowa State

Three Iowa college students left Clarksdale recently after local police reportedly told them, "You might get the hell beaten out of you."

The State University of Iowa students were in Clarksdale March 2 to conduct film and tape interviews of Negroes who were receiving food and clothing assistance from the Mississippi Council of Federated Organizations.

They had brought a load of supplies to Clarksdale some time before and came back to make the film as part of a class project.

Patrol Cars

Tom Ackerman, Roy Caldwell and West Steel were talking to some local residents in

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WE STAND FOR . . .

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

Editorial Page

Better Educational Opportunities

One of the primary goals of this newspaper is to improve the educational opportunities of the students of Mississippi. There can be no doubt but that the key to a successful democracy is an informed community. Unless we provide good training for our youth, we cannot expect a well trained adult community tomorrow.

Efforts are being made to integrate the schools in the state. Although the claim is often made that the schools are equal because the buildings are equal, the funds available for teaching are grossly unequal.

An article printed in the "New Orleans Times-Picayune" last year, reported some of the flagrant inequalities in the distribution of the public's money for education.

The report from which the article was drawn was compiled by the State Education Department's Division of Finance and Administration.

In Leake County, where a desegregation suit has been filed, there is \$48.85 allotted for each white child in attendance, and \$17.37 for each Negro child. The difference in allotment per student in the Jackson Separate Schools is \$149.64 and \$106.37.

And in LeFlore County, which has been in the news so much recently, there is \$175.38 per white student and \$9.52 for the Negro student, or more than eighteen times more for the white students.

The result of such unequal distribution means insufficient libraries, the lack of guidance counseling services, and inadequate curriculum. In fact, many of the Negro schools are left so inadequate, that even the state will not accredit them.

For instance, in LeFlore County, only one of the seven attendance centers was accredited by the state.

Throughout the state 330 of the 638 attendance centers were not up to the state's own accreditation standards. Only five of the white schools failed to meet the accreditations.

Clearly, the inequalities call for vast improvement. In order to do the kind of teaching job that will make our democracy work, our teachers will have more funds available. In some cases, this will be brought about by integrating facilities.

Teachers have a responsibility, also, to prepare themselves to best educate today's young people. In order to further their training, they ought to be taking courses during the summer. This will not only mean that they would be better teachers, but would be able to receive a higher salary.

The point was made at the convention last week of the Mississippi Education Association, that integration will mean that some Negro teachers will lose their jobs. Those teachers that have gone to summer schools, and received extra training, of course will not lose their jobs.

But we cannot see where there will ever be the need for any teachers in this state to lose their jobs. At the present time, in over 70 percent of the schools, classes had 31 to 40 pupils, in 17 percent they had 41 to 50 pupils and 5.5 percent they had 51 to 60 pupils.

With classes so greatly overcrowded, how could there possibly be any sense to the suggestion that anyone will lose their teaching jobs for any reason. We will need more and more teachers in the future, not less.

An investment in education is a sound investment in the future. Let us make sure that our community makes a good investment.

Hit Farm Bureau For Being Against Child Labor Laws

The following article appeared in the March 16 issue of the "AFL-CIO News," a weekly newspaper published by the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations. The "AFL-CIO News" is read by trade union leaders throughout the nation.

A proposal by the American Farm Bureau Federation to "liberalize" the child labor law by permitting children 14 and 15 to work in factories has been challenged by Assistant Labor Sec. Esther Peterson, who urged instead that the law be broadened to protect the children of migrant farm workers.

"I don't see anything liberal," Mrs. Peterson said, about increasing the exploitation of children.

Too Much Exploitation

She suggested there is too much exploitation already. In many states children much younger than 14 work from sunrise to sunset alongside their parents in the fields," she went on.

"Their living condition are disgraceful and they have little or no opportunity for schooling."

Mrs. Peterson, a leader in the long battle which resulted in the child labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act—the minimum wage law—gave her views in a broadcast in "As We See It," AFL-CIO program heard on the ABC radio network.

Rules Called Restrictive

The labor aide said she was distressed" by a Farm Bureau policy statement alleging that "regulations relating to the employment" of minors aged 14 to 15 in industry are "so restrictive that they virtually eliminate employment of such minors, with socially undesirable consequences."

Child labor laws, she said, "aren't nearly as restrictive as we are led to believe" because the laws permit children to work after school.

The Farm Bureau's position she called "ridiculous" because "socially undesirable consequences come about when children are in factories."

As for the children of migrant workers, she said many of them are in effect "condemned to a whole life of migrant farm work since they have no chance to learn anything else."

Unconcerned

"That is a socially undesirable consequence," she said, "which ought to concern the Farm Bureau and all citizens, but unfortunately there is a feeling" that such conditions do not exist.

Mrs. Peterson agreed with interviewer Harry W. Flannery that the country's basic economic problem is lack of jobs for untrained and unskilled workers "and not laws that keep 14 and 15-year-olds out of jobs."

Letters To The Editor

To The Editor:

I am writing this letter to let you know that I am going from door to door getting the people ready and telling them about the FREE PRESS.

I am getting them to subscribe for a year. Most of them say that they are going to start as soon as they get a dollar.

They seem very interested in the paper and ask how long this paper has been out. They haven't ever seen a paper like this before. It tells the truth.

They say "I am tired of getting this old confederate white paper, it just lies all the time,

Ross's Speech Brings Roars Of Laughter From Students

Bruce Galphin, an Atlanta reporter who covered Gov. Barnett's speech at Harvard last month, said that the governor was "treated like the greatest thing since Charlie Chaplin." Galphin wrote in "The Atlanta Constitution" that, although police guarded the auditorium, "the only explosions heard were those of repeated laughter."

After the speech, the students let the governor know just what was on their minds. Here is what happened during the question and answer period. The transcript came from a reporter from Mississippi.

QUESTIONER: Sir, one of the main points I believe you made, during your talk was that the people of your state should be allowed to manage their own affairs by themselves.

All The People?

I wonder, sir, whether you can say that is being done now, whether all the people of your state are managing the affairs of the state when we observe the proportion of Negro voters to the proportion of the Negro population of your state.

BARNETT: But, . . . now . . . what is your question? (Laughter from audience).

QUESTIONER: Whether you can honestly say that the people are managing their own affairs when virtually no Negroes at all choose the state officers who are managing the state of Mississippi?

Gov. Doesn't Understand

BARNETT: (Pauses for 5 seconds): You're asking me if they are managing the affairs of Mississippi, is that what you're asking? I don't quite understand. Are you arguing . . . (interrupted by moderator).

MODERATOR: Could I try and rephrase the question? The question is saying that you suggested that Mississippi should be allowed to manage ITS own affairs, the people of Mississippi should manage their affairs.

The questioner wonders in view of the proportionately low Negro vote whether you can properly say that THE PEOPLE of Mississippi are in fact managing their affairs . . .

Still Confused

BARNETT: In other words, in other words, are they permitting the . . . the . . . the . . . certain people to vote? That's what you're asking me. (Pause)

Well, let me say this. It's difficult to understand just what you're driving at, but . . . (laughter from audience) . . . I'd say this . . . that, uh . . . the registrars—we have 82 circuit clerks, and they're known as registrars in the state of Mississippi. They are elected by the . . . uh . . . popular vote. (Laughter from audience).

Now, then, you asked about a Negro voting. Uh, they have a right to vote the same as a white man. They have to qualify (laughter).

You know voting (laughter continues) . . . voting, you may think is a right, but it's a privilege. It's a privilege anyone may . . . uh . . . exercise if he does certain things.

The Ole Poll Tax

In other words, in Mississippi, as several other Southern states, have a poll tax.

Now, if a Negro will pay his poll taxes, if he'll present himself to the county registrar, and if he's . . . uh . . . qualified, if he's intelligent enough and can understand the Constitution of

and doesn't ever get things straight."

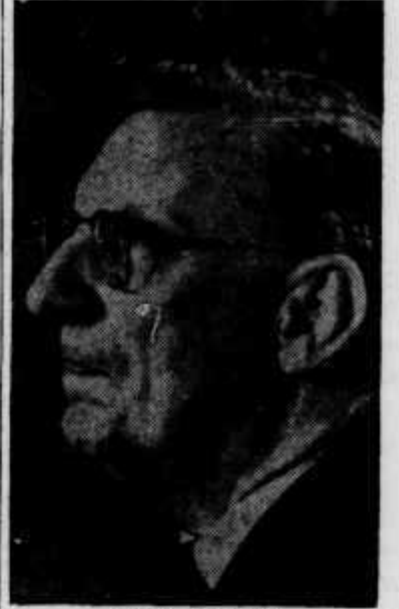
Bobby Talbert
Ruleville, Miss.

Mississippi when it's read to him (laughter), or if he can interpret it, then, of course, he's entitled to vote. But if he's not qualified, then he's denied that right.

Some Do

Now if he thinks that he's been discriminated against, then certainly he has a right to appeal to the courts. And, some of them do, you know. (Laughter).

Uh . . . you know in Mississippi, we have literacy tests.



Gov. Barnett

We try to find out if people are intelligent enough to vote for . . . uh . . . candidates . . . (laughter), because we believe in the literacy test, because we don't want a government of the ignorant, for the ignorant, and by the ignorant (Laughter).

Now you ask about the Negroes being entitled to vote. They're entitled to vote. And most of them are privileged to vote if they will . . . they are privileged to vote, if they'll exercise their rights. Uh . . . there's no question about that.

Just Ask Them

Now, there are a lot of them that don't want to vote. (Laughter). There are a lot of 'em, and . . . you . . . you go down to Mississippi, you can ask a lot of 'em, they don't . . . a lot of 'em don't care anything about voting.

But let me say this about the Negroes. We get along with them . . . and work with them in harmony and peace, by the side of them in the factories, elsewhere, . . . uh . . . we're good to them. (Laughter)

They own . . . the Negroes in Mississippi . . . The Negroes, . . . the Negroes in Mississippi own approximately 25 per cent of all the homes in Mississippi and about 42 per cent of our population is Negro. They . . . uh . . . they own a lot of property.

Negroes, according to one bank in Jackson, there in that local community have eight million dollars . . . uh . . . in . . . in one bank in Jackson, Mississippi.

They go to school there. They have wonderful schools, more beautiful and spacious and comfortable than some of the white schools.

We've spent in Mississippi . . . the last one hundred million dollars that's been spent, 70 million dollars of that money . . . uh . . . has been spent for the Negro schools and . . . uh . . . 30 million for the whites. In other words, there . . . there . . . we're trying to give them equal . . . uh . . . opportunities . . . uh . . . in education and in voting.

Did you have . . . was there another question?

Read the rest of Barnett's "answers" in next week's FREE PRESS.

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NCAA Affair Hurt Mississippi

This article is written by a Sophomore at Jackson State College. The author is from Vaughn in Yazoo County.

By Emmett Morris

It should have been a sad day in the heart of every Mississippian when Mississippi State's Bulldogs came out with third place honors at the N.C.A.A. playoffs.

It should have been sad because of the preceding event which almost prevented their participation. The signing of petitions, staunch segregationist cries and the near success of a court injunction.

This was the poorest example of sportsmanship and the greatest example of fear that can exhibit itself in any form.

Stir Up Emotions

These "Southern Patriots" of this state can stir up more emotional feeling through talk about the preservation of their precious way of life than anyone else.

What has continued the preservation of the status quo for a long period of time will lead to a stagnant civilization and the deterioration of society. Remember Italy after the Renaissance; it died.

We will fall farther behind unless we realize that the time has come for us to quit looking into past. Sure, it is good to think of our heritage, but let's make sure we give our posterity a heritage too.

But, we will not achieve this by standing up saying our forefathers did thus and so, and we

are going to do likewise.

Lack Of Insight

By lack of insight three times previously, glory has been unattainable for the Bulldogs. The 1959-60-61 playoffs were denied this team because the N.C.A.A. officials don't think like sovereign Mississippians, fortunately.

It would have been a black page in Mississippi's history, had the Bulldogs been denied the opportunity to travel to the N.C.A.A. after exhibiting such enthusiasm at the idea of going.

It would have been even worse for the state's reputation for them to have slipped away and been ordered back by the courts.

But, President Colvard is certainly a symbol of progress in the state, because of his bold step in the face of strong opposition. He presents just one bright spot in this black picture.

Something's Wrong

The Greek philosopher Plato said, "the unexamined life isn't worth living." So, by the same token we should examine our system down here in "Dixie," for if no one else believes in it but ourselves, then something must be wrong with it.

It is time that our state leaders exercised some thinking power.

Men like Senator Billy Mitts, B. W. Larson, and Board M. Roberts are the ones who caused more friction than any "freedom rider" or "outside agitator."

Best Interest?

These men were opposed to the team's playing in the N.C.A.A. finals because it was "not in the best interest of the state." These actions are stamped and sealed with fear.

The segregationist is so fearful that it will appear that he is giving in, until he refuses to make progress. And, who is hurt by this action? Him of course.

It was most saddening to read the pathetic statement by Board Member Roberts saying:

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"I prayed that the team would not win its last two season games, because I knew we would have to face this."

But it does make one thing evident; fear is rising. This ruthless type of fear that is not conducive to straight thinking.

Knowing the fear that was in Roberts' heart would lead us to think that he might have prayed for a loss to Loyola. Let's hope he didn't.

Mitt's Blunder

The last-minute injunction asked by Senator Billy Mitts and B. W. Larson was another instance of ruthless thinking caused by fear. Ordinarily, a man who has worked with law as long as Senator Mitts has, would not make a blunder like this.

Nobody was worried whether the Bulldogs' players were white or Negro, but if they could play the game.

So, it is time we examine our thinking and do something constructive, or our little ivory tower might crumble—because we don't play the game.

Gunshots Aimed At Door Of Jackson Masonic Hall

The drivers of a green Oldsmobile shot up the plate glass windows of the Masonic Temple in Jackson while Hinds County leaders were discussing voter registration inside.

Rev. Robert L. T. Smith, who attended the meeting, reported that at least five shots cracked the glass of the building's four doors Tuesday night.

An eyewitness saw the shots fired from the passing car.

Ellender Admits Negroes Not Allowed To Vote In Parts Of Miss., La.

Louisiana U. S. Senator Allen Ellender has admitted that Negroes are not allowed to vote in many parts of Mississippi and Louisiana.

Ellender said that "the white people are just scared to death by all the Negroes in those areas where the Negroes are in the majority."

Negroes Will Hold Offices "If they get the vote, why they'll have all the offices; they'll hold all the offices in those (counties) of course."

Ellender said that he thought the states should determine "who should and should not vote."

What Is A Labor Union Grievances

The Free Press has frequently printed articles about the activities of labor unions in Mississippi. Some readers have asked us to explain just what labor unions are and why they are important. This is the fourth of a series of articles about unions and what they mean to you.

Fourth in a Series

Suppose that the boss made you stay late to do something that wasn't really part of your job. Suppose you got called down for something that wasn't your fault—and your pay was docked. Suppose the foreman is treating you mean—and threatens to have you fired if you complain.

If you had a union, you could do something about it—and not worry about losing your job.

Unions have what is called a "grievance procedure."

The grievance procedure is handled either by a shop steward, who is a worker elected by the other union men in the plant, or by a grievance committee composed of a group of workers.

Worker Tells Steward

If a worker has a complaint, he tells the steward or the grievance committee. The steward (or committee) talks to the shop foreman and asks him to resolve the complaint. If he does not agree, the question is taken to a higher supervisor.

Some complaints have been taken all the way to the president of the company. When they get this high, a representative of the international union handles the grievance.

The grievance procedure is written right into the union contract. Most agreements provide for "arbitration" if the union and the company can't settle a complaint.

In arbitration, the complaint is put before a board of respected men who are not involved

with the company or with the union. They hear both sides and then make a decision.

How else but with a union could you get the president of a company to consider your complaint?

The important thing about the grievance procedure is that you have the entire union — often made up of thousands of men in all parts of the country—standing behind you.

Union Speaks For Men

You don't have to go before the foreman or supervisor or president yourself. A union official, trained in speaking up for the rights of his members, speaks up for you.

And the union contract protects you against getting fired when you complain.

If the union contract is broken either by a member being treated unfairly or being fired without a good reason, the whole union can strike.

Union Gives Dignity

With a union you don't have to be afraid to speak up when you are treated badly. You can have dignity and be treated like a man.

The strength of the union stands ready to back up your rights. And the union will act with all its power to back up even one man—YOU.

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Some Good Advice For All Teachers

Unions would mean higher wages for teachers, an American Federation of Teachers (AFL-CIO) representative told a group of Mississippi teachers recently.

Robert Porter, administrative aide to the president of the AFT, said that education cannot "really become a true profession until the salaries and working conditions of teachers are substantially improved."

Paid Least

He said that Mississippi teachers were paid less than teachers in any other state. The strength of the Chicago teachers union has won salaries of \$8,750 to \$15,350 for teachers with bachelor degrees, he pointed out.

Porter spoke before a fraternity of teachers in Jackson for the Mississippi Education Association convention.

Supt. Of Education . . .

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two to four times more expensive than a public school system, he said.

University of Mississippi law professor Dr. John Fox told the group that the violence surrounding James Meredith's admission cannot be justified.

"States rights doesn't mean violent resentment to court action," he said. The 1954 Supreme Court desegregation is "the law until reversed or repealed," he declared.

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Frazier . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

der for admission and will appear on the Hattiesburg campus in an effort to register.

The admissions director of USM wrote Frazier in March that his medical record was not complete. The youth said that he had left four spaces blank instead of writing "no" to the questions.

When he returned the record, he was told that the application could not be considered because all information hadn't been sent in before the February 27 deadline.

Frazier was first rejected because authorities said that a record of his grades did not arrive on time.

Won't Accept Credits

The youth, who is president of the student body at Campbell College, said that USM refuses to accept his credits. Although Campbell is not a member of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges, Frazier said that other schools with national ratings do accept its credits.

He said that USM's action was just another step to discourage him, but stated that he would start as a freshman if that is necessary.

Frazier declared, "I would like to go to Southern for an education, to promote understanding and to bring man closer to man through the intellectual, social and educational exchanges of knowledge and association."

Before the announcement of Frazier's rejection, USM President W. D. McCain warned that students who demonstrated during the new quarter would be suspended.

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Kennard Improved Following Surgery

Clyde Kennard left Billings Hospital at the University of Chicago last Wednesday after surgery to cure cancer of the intestine.

His doctors said that Kennard's condition is "much improved."

Students at the University of Chicago, where Kennard attended school, and in Mississippi gave blood needed during the eight hour operation.

Will Recover In Chicago

Kennard's sister, Mrs. Ida Tarpley, will care for him in Chicago until he is completely well.

Before he left Jackson, Kennard told the FREE PRESS that he wants to return to Mississippi to help secure equality for the Negroes of his home state.

Morsell To Speak . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

a group of white teenagers was arrested last week after they threw an egg at a 12 year old Negro girl.

On March 10, police turned away a group of white youths who were heading toward the voter project office, he said. "The teenagers then went four blocks away and hit a Negro girl in the right eye with an egg." The boys were arrested and the young girl taken to the hospital for treatment.

When a Civil Rights Commission investigator visited the girl, she appeared to be in a state of shock.

The youths were let out on bond the next day, and their parents were given orders to pay the girl's doctor bill.

McDonald said, "In most areas that are being canvassed, the people are in fear. They say: 'I'm scared. They might put me in jail if I try to register. My husband might lose his job if I try to register.'"

The youth said, "There are those that will throw the Bible at you, saying, 'The Lord will take care of things.'" McDonald said, "The Lord helps those who help themselves."

Principal Took Newspaper

Sam Block reported that the principal of Amenda Elzy High School collected copies of the Mississippi FREE PRESS which Block had given students to take to their parents.

Arrest U. S. . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

state one. He said that some charge would be "thought up" because it was necessary that "the races be kept separate in Greenwood."

Smith made several phone calls and released Relyea after 45 minutes.

Seek End To Practice

Civil Rights Commission General Counsel Clyde Ferguson said in Washington that protests would be made to the Justice Department and the Interstate Commerce Commission. He said that the Commission is seeking to end "the unconstitutional and illegal practices" which exist in Mississippi.

Relyea was in Greenwood along with Civil Rights Commission attorney Ronald Natalie. They were investigating threats and actions taken to prevent Negro voter registration, and discrimination in the surplus food program.

Girls Beaten

Four McComb girls, aged 15 to 18, have signed affidavits claiming that five men beat them and threw them out of the Illinois Central Railroad Station in McComb after station officials were unsuccessful in getting the girls to leave.

Sandra Thompson, 15, Carolyn Thompson, Mary Ann Caston and Ernestine Jackson, all 18, said that they entered the white waiting room—which no longer has a "white" sign—Sunday afternoon, February 24.

The station porter and two men who were either conductors or trainmen asked the four to leave; they refused. The ticket agent made a telephone call and a Summit man arrived 5 minutes later.

Man Cursed

The affidavit said that this man pulled Miss Sandra Thompson and Miss Caston out of their seats, cursed them and ordered them out of the station. He approached Miss Carolyn Thompson, who was making a phone call, "jerked the telephone from

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Clarksdale Police . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

side the distribution center when two patrol cars drove up.

The cars honked their horns and Ackerman went outside. The police said that they had received complaints from Negroes about two youths being in a Negro section of town. The officers suggested that it might be dangerous to remain there.

Film Destroyed

One of the students who remained inside took pictures of the scene through a window. When the police saw him, they took his camera and destroyed the film, it was claimed.

The three students left Clarksdale that day.

her hand and struck her on her head."

Agent Did Nothing

The four were thrown out of the waiting room. They said that "During all of this time the ticket agent said or did nothing to interfere with the men who were abusing" them.

Wednesday the State Advisory Committee to the U. S. Civil Rights Commission heard testimony about segregation in interstate transportation facilities. The FREE PRESS will give a complete report of the hearing next week.

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