

Mississippi FREE PRESS

"The Truth Shall Make You Free"

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38

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10c Per Copy

Miss. Vote Drive Gathers Speed



HUNDREDS OF POUNDS of clothing were donated to help tide Delta sharecroppers over the winter months. These clothes were donated by New York City Local 99 of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union at the request of CORE. This picture shows members of CORE and the ILGWU.

Clarksdale Drug Store Is Damaged By Blast; Henry Thanks Donors

An explosion ripped a 12 foot hole in the Clarksdale drug store owned by civil rights leader Aaron Henry last week and the Sheriff of Coahoma County said he thought the blast had been lightning.

Henry said that the explosion occurred at about 8 p.m. the evening of May 3 and reported that the noise was heard blocks away. About ten people were inside the store, but no one was injured.

Henry also reported that over 100 people went to the Court House to register last week; people go down every day, he said.

He told the FREE PRESS that the Emergency Welfare and Relief Committee has stopped distributing food and clothing on a large scale because people are going back to work in the fields. The Com-

Vote Drive Started In Madison County

JACKSON—Rev. Robert L. T. Smith, a former candidate for U. S. Congress from Mississippi was the chief speaker in a meeting which opened a Madison County voter registration drive Tuesday.

The mass meeting was sponsored by the Madison County Democratic League in cooperation with the Mississippi Council of Federated Organizations, and the Congress of Racial Equality.

300 Registered In '47

The League was organized in 1947 by Johnnie Green after he was driven out of the regis-

Anti-Barnett Editor Gets Pulitzer Prize

Mississippi Editor Ira Harkey has won a Pulitzer Prize and an award from the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America for his editorials opposing Gov. Barnett's actions during the Ole Miss crisis.

Harkey, Editor of the Pascagoula Chronicle was given the Pulitzer Prize for "distinguished editorial writing." Sidna Brower, Editor of the University of Mississippi Newspaper, had been nominated for the same award for her editorials opposing violence. Harkey, however, went a lot further than Miss Brower with his condemnations of segregation.

ACWA Award

Last week ACWA President

Bomb Thrown Into Itta Bena Meeting; New Classes Begin

Voter registration workers in Leflore County reported that a bomb was thrown into a mass meeting in Itta Bena last week and police harassment of workers in Greenwood continues. Nevertheless, over 150 people attempted to register at the County Court House last week.

Annell Ponder, head of the citizenship education program, said that 25 new teachers were trained last month at a special week-long school. They will begin classes in Leflore, Bolivar and Sunflower Counties.

James Travis reported that he and Bob Moses testified before the Grand Jury Tuesday at the Greenwood trial of three men accused of shooting into their car February 28.

Bomb Sizzled

Miss Ponder said that over 100 people were attending an Itta Bena mass meeting May 3 when a bomb was thrown into the church and began sizzling. Vote worker Bobby Talbert picked it up and threw it into a ditch filled with water.

She said it was believed that a local county official paid a Negro man to throw the bomb. However, since the bombing, increasing numbers of Itta Bena citizens are attempting to register each day.

Miss Ponder also reported that Monday night cars of police and white men drove around the voter registration office all through the night. Vote workers kept an all night

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Diggs Attacks Bias In HEW Programs

U. S. Congressman Charles Diggs of Michigan has charged that discrimination exists in Mississippi programs in a letter to HEW Secretary Anthony Celebrezze.

Diggs said that racial discrimination exists in vocational education, National Defense Education Act student loans, the Federal Impacted Areas program, the Bureau of Family Services and the Public Health Service.

Teachers Paid Less

He also said that Negro teachers are paid less than whites and many have been fired because of support to civil rights.

Diggs declared that this discrimination has "a serious effect upon the ability of Negroes to learn and earn" and "it is a vital segment in the rope by which they are being lynched." He said the discrimination was "criminal."

Diggs is a Negro and was elected by voters in Detroit, Mich., an area with a large population of Negroes and labor union members.



CLARENCE MITCHELL will speak in Jackson Sunday at a mass meeting to celebrate the ninth anniversary of the 1954 Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in public schools. (See Page 3.)

Jackson Voter Drive Includes Clinics, Free Rides And Babysitting

Students and members of the Jackson community are conducting a voter registration drive which includes voting clinics and free transportation and babysitting for people who want to register.

Since the drive began in April, 30 people have gone to the Hinds County Court House in Jackson to register. Twenty-five of them passed the test and were registered without any trouble or intimidation from the registrar or others in the community.

Miss Pearlana Lewis, a full-

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Ruleville Ladies Lose Jobs After They Try To Register To Vote

A Ruleville voter registration worker told the FREE PRESS that a local policeman and the son of the city's mayor have both fired employees who tried to register to vote.

George Raymond said that Mrs. Sally Mae Boyd, a widow 59 years old, and Mrs. Patricia Ann Palmer, the mother of four children, were the victims of reprisals one day after their efforts to register.

Ordered Off Plantation

Mrs. Boyd attempted to register April 24. The next day, police officer T. A. Flemings ordered her to get off his plantation. Flemings had told her to "get out of that mess." When she asked if Raymond could help her move, Flemings said no and told her to stay until he gave her permission to leave.

April 29, Flemings told Mrs. Boyd to get off the plantation, but refused to let her take her furniture until she paid \$112 he claimed she owed. Raymond said that Mrs. Boyd had received \$15 a week for working in the fields; Flemings deducted \$4 or \$5 a week, reportedly for social security.

Mrs. Boyd is now living with members of the community who have been active in the voter registration movement. She has no furniture or clothes.

Fired By Mayor's Son

Raymond also reported that Mrs. Palmer was fired by Mayor Charles Dorrough's son May 4, the day after she attempted to register. She had worked in the office of Dorrough, who is a doctor.

When Raymond went to see the Mayor May 1, Dorrough

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IUE President Wants Federal Bill Against Job Discrimination

The President of the International Union of Electrical Workers urged the passage of the proposed Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Act in testimony last week before a House Education and Labor Subcommittee.

James B. Carey stated that the unemployment rate of Negroes is double that of whites. Discrimination has forced nearly a third of Negro workers into service jobs, while only 10% of white workers have these jobs. Over 15% of Negro workers are in unskilled jobs, while less than 5% of white workers work in unskilled jobs, he said.

"Frequently," Carey said, "unions are blamed for discriminating which is the fault of the employer. Other times, we sadly admit, discrimination is jointly perpetrated and per-

petuated by unions and employers.

"Moreover, no matter how well-meaning may be some of the leaders of discriminating organizations, they face pressure from within their own groups should they attempt to alter the pattern.

Need Law

"For them a law requiring integration and equal opportunity is protection. For those who are apathetic in the face of injustice or who actively promote discrimination, the law is necessary as a bridle on their immorality."

The IUE President told the Subcommittee that some employers neatly balance their work forces, half Negro and half white, and then put one

(Continued On Page 3)

Paper Workers Union Wins Meridian Victory

The United Paper Makers and Paper Workers won a victory last week at a Meridian roofing plant owned by Mississippi Industries.

The Union won a National Labor Relations Board election held to determine if they would represent the company's employees. Most of the plant's 140 workers voted to join the union.

We STAND FOR . . .

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

Editorial Page

To People In Jackson

One of the stories in this paper tells how two Ruleville women lost their jobs because they tried to register to vote. In the past month over 80 people have attempted to register in Sunflower County.

Another story reports that people in Jackson appear to be too "complacent" to want to vote. In a county where people can register without intimidation or losing their jobs, only 30 people have responded to a vote drive which began in April.

What are the people of Jackson complacent about?

Are they happy with their unpaved streets? Are they happy with a city government which believes that the only city jobs a Negro should have are ditch diggers and garbage collectors and street cleaners? Remember, their taxes pay the salaries of city employees who sit behind desks in the City Hall.

Are they happy with the local police force? Several weeks ago the FREE PRESS reported the story of a 67 year old man who suffers from epilepsy. He was beaten by police armed with blackjacks after an arrest on trumped-up charges. Are the people of Jackson satisfied with their Police Department?

Over 5,000 people in Hinds County are registered to vote. There are more than 36,000 Negroes eligible to vote. Negro voters could make up 35 per cent of the voting population, a powerful bloc which could be the balance of power in county politics.

Even if only five times as many Jackson Negroes were registered, local politicians would begin to see the way the wind was changing. What has happened in other cities would happen here. Since large numbers of Negroes began voting in Atlanta, that Southern city has hired Negro policemen who can arrest whites!

This can be the future for the people of Jackson—and Ruleville, Greenwood, Clarksdale, Canton and every other Mississippi town where Negroes organize political power.

But there cannot be power without the vote. Until complacency stops, freedom will not begin.

What are the people of Jackson waiting for?

We Need A Governor

Businessmen and politicians in Mississippi like to go to the North and brag about the feebleness of the labor unions back home.

Sitting in their "plush hotel suite or eating in the swank restaurant—probably paid for by the money supporting the State Agricultural and Industrial Board—they tell industrialists to come down to Mississippi and get cheap labor.

Gov. Ross Barnett often leads such expeditions. He goes forth in the name of bringing "industry back to Mississippi." But the truth is that Gov. Barnett is trying to sell the daily toil of the people who elected him at as cheap as it can be sold.

Really, we think that the governor and his A&I board members are well aware that they are not looking out for the "people of Mississippi" in trying to sell their labor cheap.

But surely, one might ask, would a governor do a thing so foolish if he were acting against the best interest of those he represents? The point comes in checking just who the governor might represent.

No matter what the wage scale paid employees of a factory, the factory is going to mean money to executives of the Mississippi Power & Light Co. or the Mississippi Power Co. or the Bank On The Corner or the gas company.

We think that the governor is really the governor from MP&L—not the governor from Mississippi. But, meanwhile, Mississippians will keep on with skimpy wages and Gov. Barnett will continue to use his gold bathroom.

MISSISSIPPI FREE PRESS

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To The Editor:

The enclosed clipping from the student newspaper the *Mississippian* at the University of Mississippi contains a letter concerning the recent propaganda film *Oxford, U.S.A.* The letter was written by Dr. Paul G. Hahn, Associate Professor of Anthropology. It struck me that the information in it might be of interest to the readers of the FREE PRESS.

Tom J. Truss, Jr.
Vice President, University of Mississippi Chapter, American Association of University Professors

To The Editor:

. . . According to the stories and advertisements, *Oxford U. S. A.* presents proof of "federal atrocities and 'verifies legislative investigation.'"

An advertisement in the *Oxford Eagle* claims the film "Exposes Naked Facts of Federal Government Atrocities During Invasion. Provides Flagrant (sic) Violations of United States Constitution."

The news releases stated that according to Mr. Patrick Sims of Dallas, Texas, the film's producer, the purpose of *Oxford U.S.A.* is "to show violations of the American constitution and the bill of rights" by the federal government during "the invasion of Mississippi last fall."

Mr. Sims, who wants "the American people to know what happened in Oxford on September 30, 1962," describes his production as a presentation of "the true facts of the side that has not been told."

It is reported that Mr. Sims described the film as "picturing injured patrolmen, gassed coeds, wounded students, and soldiers driving away Mississippi highway patrolmen at bayonet point from the roadblocks."

After reading the advertisements and news releases an individual going to a showing of *Oxford U.S.A.* might anticipate seeing a detailed, factual account of what occurred at Ole Miss on the evening and night of September 30, 1962.

He might anticipate seeing scenes of actual rioting, of marshals attacking students with clubs and weapons, of highway patrolmen manning roadblocks until driven away by squads of soldiers advancing with fixed bayonets.

If he expects to see these things on the screen he will look in vain; they are not there.

For example, he does not see patrolmen being driven from roadblocks at bayonet point, but only a soldier, carrying his rifle since he can do nothing else with it, who approaches a police car and speaks to the driver.

The viewer does not see the bayonet being pointed at the police nor does he see the patrol car driving away.

Individuals from the University who attended a showing of *Oxford U.S.A.* know that they did not see "what occurred at Ole Miss on the evening and night of September 30, 1962."

They know that they did not see the "true facts," that they did not see a revelation of "federal atrocities."

What they saw was a collage of scenes on the campus (and elsewhere?) glued together with interviews of politicians and students, mostly new freshmen (without their beanies).

Instead of presenting the "true facts," *Oxford U.S.A.* presents distorted stories (largely from hearsay evidence), half truths, and out and out lies.

Among the latter is a claim

Letters To The Editor

by the narrator that James H. Meredith attends class only from time to time, that he skips his exams, that he did not make his grades last semester, and that any other student with his record would have been dismissed from the University for academic reasons. The faculty of this university knows that this is not true, if no one else does.

Another example of a lie is told, perhaps out of ignorance, by a man who holds a high political office in this state and is a candidate for the position of chief executive.

During his long appearance on the screen this politician states emphatically that Mississippi highway patrolmen manned roadblocks at the entrances to the campus throughout the night until they were relieved at bayonet point the next morning.

The highway patrol knows that this is not true as do the individuals who poured onto the campus on the night of September 30 without hindrance, the campus police, the University Administration, and many others.

I know that the highway patrolmen withdrew their roadblock on University Avenue by 9:30 p.m. and that it was never returned!

Furthermore, I know that I did not see a single highway patrolman in the east end of the campus after about 10:00 p.m. (it is needless to say I was not sleeping that night).

I did, however, see a large number of patrolmen return to the campus in a caravan of patrol cars at 7:30 a.m. on October 1, and before 8:00 a.m. I observed a crowd of patrolmen in the University Cafeteria having a hearty breakfast with jokes, laughter, and smiling faces as though they were celebrating a joyous occasion. One wonders why the truth in this matter is not told.

It may or may not be unfortunate that in our society a collection of distorted stories, half truths, and lies can be presented to the public as a true documentary account.

It is unfortunate that many of the people in our society who will see this film will believe that they have seen the truth because they are naïve and gullible, or because they can see only what they want to see.

Sincerely,
Paul G. Hahn

To the Editor:

I am a native Mississippian, and have lived in the state all of my life.

People who have any reasonable degree of dignity or respect for the truth beery deception and brainwashing.

Apparently, the statement appearing in the *Birmingham News*, Sunday, April 21, 1963, which quoted Governor Ross Barnett as saying, ". . . they say Mississippi is mean to its Negroes. I say Mississippi treats its Negroes better than any other state in the union," if properly interpreted, is intended to soothe the minds of people who are already committed.

Anyone outside the mental institutions with a reasonable sense of intelligence knows that Mississippi's record will prove that hatred for Negroes is deeper than any other state in the union.

One may rest assured that people all over this nation and around the world have less respect for Mississippi after reading the statement.

I do not believe that people hate Mississippi physically. It is the evil, that glaring evil of

hypocrisy in government, that contaminates the state; that people hate. A recent survey of the *World Glove* rated Mississippi and South Africa as the worst places on the map.

Mississippi holds first place in the number of Negroes lynched; Mississippi was the first and only state to require the Army, the Air Force, the Department of Justice, Federal Marshalls, and the NAACP to enroll one little man in an all white school, who is classified as an American Negro.

Mississippi spends less per capita on the education of Negro children than any other state in the union; Mississippi was the first and probably the only state where Negroes, engaged in peaceful protest, have been bitten by canine dogs; Mississippi, with its nearly 1 million Negroes, has the least number of Negro electors simply because Mississippi has the most ridiculous vote law of any state in the nation.

Police hatred evidenced by brutality heaped upon Negroes proves to be the worst in the nation. The White Citizens Council is rated to be the champion of all hate groups in the south, as it had its birth here in Mississippi.

Mississippi has the very lowest judicial justice for Negroes of any other state. A greater number of Negro leaders have been murdered while struggling for freedom here in Mississippi than any other state.

The present state of affairs at Greenwood, Mississippi, where surplus food was denied Negroes because they tried to register and vote proves that hatred for Negroes reaches the very depth of cruelty in that this is an effort to starve innocent babies.

The Freedom Riders rode from Washington, D. C. through other southern states, but when they rode into Mississippi they rode into Mississippi jails where they were abused and misused. They were taken to Mississippi prisons and according to reports some were given the most obnoxious abuse every heaped upon a human being.

The above is to point out a few phases of the "Hell" on earth suffered by Negroes who live in Mississippi. Therefore, we, the Mississippi Negroes and people across the world are shocked and amazed over the statement that Negroes are treated better in Mississippi than any other state.

The statement says one thing. The present day record is history. We will take the record. "Deeds show what we are, words what we should be."

C. R. Darden,
President, Meridian
Branch NAACP
Member Nat'l Board
of Directors NAACP

Meeting To Honor '54 Court Decision

Attorney Clarence Mitchell, Director of the Washington Bureau of the NAACP, is set to speak in Jackson Sunday, May 12, at a commemoration of the May 17, 1954 Supreme Court desegregation decision.

In Washington, Mitchell is concerned with getting Congressmen to support civil rights legislation.

The "Mother of the Year" will also be named at the mass meeting, to be held at 3 p.m. in the Masonic Temple on Lynch Street. The public is invited to attend the program.

Clarksdale Drug . . .

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mittee will still handle emergencies.

Need Money For Bills

However, Henry stated that money is still needed to pay winter rent, light and gas bills. Money is also needed to pay the bonds of civil rights activists, since the bail needed for those already arrested has used up the property available for property bonds.

Henry said, "We would like to express our grateful appreciation to the citizens throughout the nation for the Christain way in which they rallied to the need of their indigent brothers and sisters in Mississippi. "No one that we know of who needed food or clothing was overlooked."

Vote Drive . . .

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trav's office when he attempted to register to vote. Greene started the Madison County Democratic League and took 300 people to the court house to register.

There are 29,000 Negroes and 9,000 whites in Madison County—Negroes outnumber whites more than three to one. Only 500 Negroes are now registered.

Negroes have a surprising economic standing in Madison County; between 30 and 40% of the land is owned by Negroes.

The Madison County Democratic League announced an all-out voter registration drive at a mass meeting held in Canton Tuesday.

Anti-Barnett . . .

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acob Potofsky presented Harkey with a \$500 Sidney Hillman Foundation award.

In addition to his pro civil rights editorials, Harkey is pro labor union.

The Chronicle Editor declared "I have committed many foul, un-Southern crimes in the past 14 years. I have willfully agreed with the Negro Mississippian that he is entitled to the rights of citizenship."

Bomb Thrown . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

vigil at the office; they feared that something might happen in connection with the trial hearing the next day.

Not Afraid

The youths sat out on the steps in full view of the passing cars to show that they were not intimidated by the harrassment.

A workshop for voter registration workers is set for this week-end in Greenville, from Thursday night to Saturday.

Miss Ponder gave the FREE PRESS this partial list of voter classes now being conducted in Greenwood, Ruleville and Itta Bena:

Each class lasts two hours. Greenwood:

Maola Anderson, Tuesday and Friday, 7 p.m. at the Beauty Shop at Avenue I and St. Charles Street.

Miss Georgia Ann Givens, Tuesday and Thursday, 8 p.m. at Jennings Temple.

Mrs. Zeela Frazier, Monday and Wednesday, 4 p.m. at 706 Avenue N.

Miss Betty Brown, Tuesday and Thursday, 9 p.m. at the First Christian Church.

John Matthews, Tuesday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. at Turner Chapel.

Mrs. Ollie Marie Hughes, Thursday and Saturday, 7 p.m. at Union Grove Baptist Church.

Mrs. Mattie Pilcher, Monday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. at the Sanders Building.

Mrs. Clara Mae Reynolds, Tuesday and Friday, 7 p.m. at 402½ State Street.

Mrs. Atlean Smith, Tuesday and Thursday, 7 p.m. at the Sanders Building.

Mrs. Rebecca Smith, Tuesday and Thursday, 7 p.m. at Jones Chapel Church.

Itta Bena:

Classes are given Monday and Wednesday by Mrs. Cora Campbell and Mrs. Flazella Strong, Tuesday and Thursday by Mrs. Mary Strong, and Wednesday and Friday by Mrs. Margaret Truss.

Ruleville:

Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer and Mrs. Ernestine Foster give classes each Tuesday and Thursday in the William Chapel.

Mrs. Minnie Bell Mitchell is teaching a class in Browning and Mrs. Mattie Mae Smith will soon begin one in Sidon.

The Way To Progress

By Emmett Morris

Fellow citizens, progress is within our grasp; all we must do is reach for it.

This progress is just beyond the ballot. This progress is to be realized through the persons in office who will represent us.

This is why we must vote. This is the importance of your vote—to advance our life. And when we advance, people around us advance also.

We Are Americans

Civilization depends on people who are interested in their own welfare. This is the American way to progress. We Mississippians are Americans, and we must take part in this progress.

We have only one way to progress, that is to vote. How do we do it? We simply go to the Circuit Clerk's office and register. Then we pay our poll tax, and when election time comes, all we have to do is vote.

When we do this then and only then are we able to choose who we want to hold public offices.

Education And Labor Benefits

If we have people in office whom we elected, they will work for our benefit. These benefits are most needed to further education and to end the anti-labor right to work laws.

We all know why we do not have Negro state officials—Gov-

ernors, Congressmen, Senators, Representatives, Attorney Generals or City Councilmen. It is because we have not been voting.

We have not been voting because of low educational standards. We recognize the need for education now as the foremost need among Negroes in Mississippi and the South. With a well developed educational system any person in this state could qualify to take any job.

This is the only way that we will break the stranglehold that is on the Negro—by voting into office responsible people who represent our needs.

Jackson Voter . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

time volunteer worker who attended Tougaloo College last semester, said that people in Jackson were complacent.

She also said that although there is no effort to prevent Negroes from registering in Hinds County, people are afraid of losing their jobs. Miss Lewis said that no one has lost his job because he registered to vote.

There are about 5,000 Negroes registered to vote in Hinds County; there are over 36,000 Negroes of voting age, nearly 35% of the total voting age population.

Regular Vote Classes

Classes to help people learn how to fill out the registration form are held every Wednesday from 7:30 to 8:30 at the home of Miss Lewis, 3005 Edwards Avenue in Jackson.

Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt Rucker also hold classes for individuals or groups at their home, 2237 Idaho Street. Anyone who wishes help can call EM 6-3722.

Aid is also available every day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Room 7, 1072 Lynch Street. Free transportation and babysitting will be provided for anyone who wants to attend a voting clinic or go to the Court House to register.

In addition to conducting voter classes, registration workers knock on doors every evening to urge members of the community to register.

People who want to help by canvassing neighborhoods, babysitting or providing transportation can call Miss Lewis between 1 and 7 p.m. at FL 3-

IUE President . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

group against the other so that unionization is made nearly impossible. Each group is told that if the other gets 'control' of the union, there will be increased discrimination against the other."

A law against job discrimination would "prevent the exploitation of race hate as an anti-union weapon," Carey said.

Suggested Changes

The Union leader also called for more changes to improve the proposed law. He opposed a section which would exempt employers who hired less than 25 workers. He also spoke against the provision requiring that a complaint must be filed by or on behalf of a worker who claims discrimination and suggested that anyone be able to file a charge if the law has been broken.

The Associate General Counsel of the AFL-CIO, Thomas Harris, also testified at the hearing. He said that the present Executive Order for Equal Employment Opportunity offered almost limitless opportunities for evasion. The Order outlaws discrimination by companies with federal contracts.

Rep. James Roosevelt, a Democrat from California and Chairman of the Subcommittee, said that the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity was hurting efforts to end discrimination by giving a great deal of publicity to companies that sign non-discrimination pledges without requiring them to fulfill their promises.

6906. A speakers bureau has also been set to address churches and community groups.

Presbyterian Church Seeks End To Bias

The Southern Presbyterian general assembly has called on all member churches to end racial segregation. The assembly asked for an end to discrimination in all Presbyterian churches, schools, homes and other institutions.

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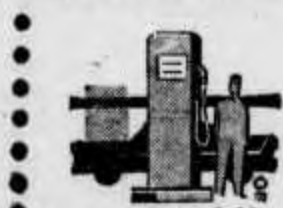
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Three Men Charge That Clinton Police Officers Beat Them

Two men and a 15 year old boy have charged that Clinton police beat them with black-jacks and arrested them after a white man ran into their parked car.

The three said the Sheriff of Hinds County told them they could not be released until they pleaded guilty to the charges.

George Vaughn, Joseph Williams and Daniel Walker, Jr. were driving to Jackson from Clinton at about 9 p.m. April 19. They had car trouble and pulled off the highway.

Youth Unconscious

They were hit by a speeding car driven by Larry Dikery and Walker, 15, was knocked unconscious. A passing motorist called the police.

When Clinton officer Howard Evans arrived, he began questioning the three Negro men; Dikery had been allowed to leave earlier. Vaughn said in the affidavit that, when he didn't know Evans' name, "he began beating me with a black-jack over my head."

Walker said the police pulled him out of the car and started beating him over the head. He said, "They asked me, 'nigger, are you drunk?' I said no sir, after which they beat me until I had to say I was drunk."

The three were ordered to stand against the car with their hands raised. Vaughn said, "Then he began beating me in my side."

Beat With Blackjack

Williams said in his affidavit, "Officer Evans asked me, 'Who was driving the car, boy?' I told him immediately and then he proceeded in violence by hitting me over the head with his fist; afterwards he began hitting me with a flashlight and blackjack while my hands were still up. During this time I put up no resistance."

Vaughn said that a civilian

observer asked the police what he was "going to do with these niggers. Evans said, 'Book the one that's driving with drunken driving, resisting arrest and disturbing the peace, and the other two with drunk and resisting arrest.' Williams' affidavit states.

In the jail elevator, Evans asked Vaughn if he was drunk and he answered "No Sir." Vaughn said the officer "hit me on the jaw with his fist then asked me again, and I said yes."

Walker said he was not released in his mother's custody "until I said I was drunk"; the other men were released on bond.

Will Police Prevent Fair Deal For Man Shot In Mendenhall?

A Mendenhall man, married and the father of 7 children, has charged that a local white man shot him after he refused to get a Negro girl for him.

Charlie Norwood has filed an affidavit with the Justice Dept. charging that Jim Peacock "pulled out a .22 pistol and shot me twice right under my heart." Norwood had told him, "I would not do that for you or any other white man."

Nothing Done

Norwood said, "This man has been picked up by law enforcement officers three or four times on charges similar to these, however it seems as if nothing has been done."

"It seems as if the Negroes in Mendenhall (Simpson County) are afraid of him, especially those who have had trouble with him bothering their daughters."

The incident occurred March 16. Norwood spent 10 days in the Veterans Hospital in Jackson. After his release, he was fined \$17 for a traffic violation which had occurred in December 1962. Peacock was released on \$1,000 bond. A trial is scheduled for September.

Norwood told the Justice Dept. that he fears the police will try to "cook up charges" against him before the trial, "since a white man was involved."

Anti-Bias Clause Is Hitch In Airport Aid

Jackson Mayor Allen Thompson has asked voters to reject several million dollars in federal aid because it has a non-discrimination clause attached to it.

Thompson asked taxpayers to approve a bond issue to raise \$450,000 for work on a runway for the new Rankin jet airport. The government has pledged a total of \$5 million in aid at the request of the city; \$2 million of federal grants has already been spent.

F.A.A. Against Discrimination

When the Federal Aviation Agency asked the city to agree to operate the airport without racial discrimination, Thompson said "We replied they could keep their money."

The Mayor declared, "The letter said the federal government would not pay its share of the cost, \$450,000, unless we gave the government the right to hire and fire and generally run the airport."

One newsman guessed that Thompson was referring to a federal equal employment opportunity clause.

In spite of the federal policy, the Jackson City Council voted Tuesday to sign the contract requiring federal funds with the non-discrimination clause omitted.

File Vote Suit Against Rankin County Sheriff

The Justice Dept. has filed a suit asking for an injunction to prevent Rankin County Sheriff Jonathan Edwards and other local officials from using threats or violence to prevent Negroes from registering to vote.

The suit came as the result of a complaint by four Negro men who were beaten by the Sheriff and two deputies when three of them attempted to register February 1.

There are 13,246 voting age whites and 6,944 voting age Negroes in Rankin County. About 6,865 whites are registered, but only 43 Negroes can vote, the suit charged.

A hearing on the injunction request is set for May 18 in Jackson.

Hungarian Ambassador Supports 'States Rights'

A Hungarian ambassador said last week that "Mississippi's problems are internal affairs" just as "our uprising was an internal affair designed to restore the old society to power."

The diplomat from Hungary, Krolly Csatorday, was referring to 1956 when an uprising of working people and students against communist rule in Hungary was crushed by Russian troops and tanks.

People who oppose democracy appear to stick together no matter where they live.

Say Gulfport Officials Violated Govt. Contract

A Justice Dept. attorney said in federal court Monday that Gulfport officials were violating state laws which "prohibit the arbitrary and capricious assignment of pupils on the basis of race."

St. John Barret charged that Mississippi laws assign children to schools on an individual basis. Therefore, city officials were violating their contract with the federal government when they assigned children of air force personnel to schools based on race.

The government has given Gulfport millions of dollars in aid to help pay the added costs of children whose parents work at Keesler Air Force Base. About 2,000 children of servicemen and U. S. employees attend school there now, including 130 Negro children.

Seek Order To Stop Picketing Arrests And File Suit For \$80,000

Eight Tougaloo College students and faculty members April 28 filed an \$80,000 damage suit against city officials for arresting them last December when they attempted to picket F. W. Woolworth on Capitol Street in Jackson.

The group has also asked the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals to rule unconstitutional two state laws against blocking the street and sidewalk. They said that the laws are designed to arrest civil rights demonstrators. The laws were passed in 1960.

Ask Injunction

They filed a petition in Federal District Court asking for a temporary order to prevent state courts from prosecuting them for reported violations of the two laws until the Fifth Circuit rules on their request.

The District Court was supposed to hear a city motion opposing the students' request to transfer the case from city to federal court. However, the hearing was postponed for a week.

Defendants in the \$80,000 damage suit are Mayor Allen Thompson, Police Chief W. D. Hayfield, Police Capt. Cecil Rathaway and City Judge James Spencer.

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