

## Carpenters Win At Storkline; 806 Vote To Join Brotherhood

Eight hundred and six Storkline workers voted last week to set up a carpenters union local at the Storkline plant in Jackson. Five hundred and eighty-six voted against the union, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

The victory for the union came after two previous elections were declared invalid. In both cases the NLRB uncovered evidence that the Storkline Company tried to intimidate its workers to vote against the union.

It was reported that company officials told workers they would lose their jobs if they voted for the union. However, several workers who were fired for union activities were ordered back to their jobs by the NLRB.

### Last Election Close

In the last election, June 12, the union lost by only 26 votes. But last week's voting reversed the margin with the union coming out on top by 220 votes.

Unless the company charges that the election was unfair and takes the case to court, the union will begin contract negotiations with plant. At press time the company had not appealed the election.

### Leads Local Industry

With over 1500 workmen, the Storkline Company is the largest industry in Jackson. The company reported a profit of over \$200,000, for the six months ending May 31. This compares with a net loss of over \$300,000 for the same period last year. The firm makes cabinets, desks, and other objects of wood.

In the past most of the work-

ers in the plant made only the legal minimum wage of \$1.15 an hour. The carpenters union is committed to working for better wages through collective bargaining.

George Jones, a glue cutter at Storkline, said he favored the union because he thought it would bring him higher pay.

Earnest Welch, a press operator, added, "I've always been told you make more money under a union. We should have had one here 15 years ago."

M. C. Green, a stockroom worker, said he voted for the

(Continued on Page 4)

## Greenwood Arrests Continue; Court Imposes Fines, Jail

Nine more Greenwood Negroes were arrested Wednesday, June 26, making 23 arrests in the last two weeks. They were arrested when they did not obey the police chief's order to leave the voter registrar's office.

Vote worker Frank Smith said they were told that nobody would be registered that day. The group said they would not leave; they would wait until they could get into the circuit clerk's office.

Two hours after their arrest, two were convicted in city court of creating a disturbance in a public place and sentenced to six months in jail and \$500 fines. The others were found guilty of breach of the peace and sentenced to four months and \$200.

That same day, three people

(Continued on Page 4)

# Mississippi Shakes As Demonstrations Grow

## Ministers Vow New Protests; Delta Sees Rising CR Tension

A committee of Jackson civic leaders told a mass meeting last Friday that protest demonstrations would begin again.

The group charged that Mayor Allen Thompson went back on his promise to desegregate city parks and golf courses.

Rev. Charles Jones told the Masonic Temple audience of about 800 people: "We serve notice on everybody in Jackson, demonstrations are resuming now."

### GREENVILLE

A series of protests against discrimination in Greenville brought a string of 20 arrests on Saturday and Monday. However no arrests were involved when a group of 70 demonstrators marched to the city hall Tuesday.

The protests began on Saturday when 10 members of the Greenville Student Movement attempted to use a city park in a white residential district.

The arrest of the 10 reached the first multiple arrest of civil rights demonstrators in Greenville. Two years ago a lone picket was arrested.

### Arrests Continue

Arrests continued Monday morning when six persons sought lunch-counter service at

(Continued On Page 3)

### CLARKSDALE

Clarksdale civil rights leaders have called for an all-out campaign against discrimination in that community. The leaders asked SCLC, CORE, and SNCC to join with the NAACP in the drive.

Rev. Martin Luther King, head of the SCLC, and Roy Wilkins, national head of the NAACP, are among those invited to participate.

Aaron Henry, state President of the NAACP, referred to the present situation in Clarksdale as "the calm before the storm." He indicated mass demonstrations are in the planning stages.

According to the Coahoma

(Continued On Page 2)

The committee reported on a conference it had with the Mayor earlier in the day in which the Mayor said he would not lift the segregation ban until a court order forced him to do so.

A case is in the courts now involving the appeal of three Negroes to desegregate Jackson parks.

### Might Close Parks

Rev. G. R. Haughton led the delegation of seven civic leaders which presented the desegregation demands to the Mayor. According to Rev. Haughton, the Mayor said that if attempts were made to desegregate the parks, he would close them. In spite of this, Rev. Haughton said attempts will be made to use the parks July 4.

The city maintains one park for Negroes and seven for whites.

The Mayor also rejected the committee's demand to desegregate the municipal golf course. Although the course was open to Negroes during the June demonstrations, it has since been re-segregated.

Jackson has an 18-hole golf course for whites and a 9-hole course for Negroes.

### Registration Continues

Alongside the promise of renewed demonstrations, the voter registration drive continues toward the July 5 deadline.

Rev. Haughton said he had reports that an assistant in the Circuit Clerk's office failed

(Continued on Page 3)



REV. G. R. HAUGHTON: Demonstrations will begin again.

## Beckwith Indicted

Byron de La Beckwith, the accused killer of Medgar Evers, will be brought to trial. In a closed session Tuesday, the Hinds County Grand Jury decided there was enough evidence against Beckwith to try him for murder. He is being held in the Hinds County jail without bond.

## Mississippi Decisions Often Lack Justice In Bi-Racial Cases

With this story the FREE PRESS begins a two part series on Mississippi court decisions. Watch for the second article next week.

The indictment of Byron de La Beckwith for the murder of Medgar Evers has re-opened a big question: how fair are Mississippi courts when they try cases in which a white man is accused of murdering a Negro?

Records show that the state's courts cannot boast proudly of equal justice for all. A spot check of court decisions over the past 10 years reveals a long list of unanswered questions.

Perhaps the most controversial case of recent years was the killing of 14 year old Emmet Till in August 1955. Till was carried off by two white men who claimed that he had whistled at the wife of one of them. Ten days after his disappearance, Till's body was discovered floating in a river.

### Body Unidentified

The two men admitted that they had seized Till, but they said they had let him go un-

(Continued on Page 4)

## Canton Police Arrest Gunman, Set Trial For June Shooting

Canton police have arrested a white gas station attendant for shooting at five young people who were walking near the site of a voter registration meeting there the night of June 24.

Ben Lewis, 43 years old, has



GEORGE RAYMOND: Police harassment continues in Canton, but voter applicants increase.

been booked on charges of "unlawfully pointing and unlawfully discharging a firearm." He was released on \$3,500 bond, with a trial set for July 8.

### Police Harassment

Canton voter registration leader George Raymond said that police harassment there is continuing. Police have come to meetings to record license plates and find out who attends. June 28, police turned back people who had come to attend a mass meeting at a church, Raymond said.

He said that C. O. Chinn, who rents an office to the registration movement, has also suffered repeated intimidation. Police have searched his store eight times, frightening away customers.

Chinn was arrested for possession of a concealed weapon, although Raymond said that the gun, which is registered, was lying on the seat of the man's car.

Raymond said that 21 people have successfully registered since June 12.



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## Editorial Page

### Playing The Game Together

Mississippians, along with the rest of the nation, saw how effective Mississippi can be if its people work together. Last Saturday night nation-wide television telecast the East-West Coast All-Star Football Game.

All of us were able to see young men, who had been kept apart during their whole lives because of the old and stupid customs of our state, perform together magnificently.

The three Mississippians who participated in the big game were: Glenn Griffing, quarterback from Ole Miss; Willie Richardson, end from Jackson State College (Negro); John Baker from Mississippi State (white).

During the second half, Griffing, who was calling the plays for the East team, called for a pass play to Richardson. The pass was a spectacular touchdown. Immediately following the play, Baker kicked the extra point.

The fine teamanship of these boys indicates the kind of team that Mississippi could put together if we did not always have to be separate—if we did not have leadership that gets elected by promising to keep us separate.

It must be clear to those people who saw that football game that Mississippians certainly can work together. We doubt that Mr. Griffing was mumbling anything about "Nigger Keep Out" when he went into the huddle to call the touchdown play to Mr. Richardson.

It is so clear that if the Negro and white leadership were able to play together on the same team, we might be able to do a great deal to improve the state for everybody.

In addition to better football teams, we would be able to work more effectively for some of the serious needs of the state. Better schools, more and better jobs, more health facilities, to name a few.

Mr. Griffing, white, Mr. Richardson, Negro, and Mr. Baker, White—all Mississippians—showed us how effective we can be if we work together.

### Go, Congress, Go

Most Negro leaders and an ever increasing number of their people in Jackson, in the rest of Mississippi and the rest of the nation are ready to work together with the white leadership, but the white leadership refuses to do so.

We earnestly hope that the U. S. Congress looks on the rising pressure from Negroes as a sign to act rapidly and vigorously to pass legislation that will force the white leadership to play the game right.



# NLRB Aids Union Elections

This is the second in a series about federal labor laws which protect working people. The National Labor Relations Act set up the National Labor Relations Board to supervise union elections and to protect the right of workers to organize trade unions. The article explains how the NLRB conducts union representation elections.

The victory of the workers at Storkline Corporation in Jackson spells the end of many years of organization efforts there by the Carpenters Union. During this time, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) used its powers to protect the rights of the workers; it ordered a new election each time the company was successful in intimidating workers to oppose the union.

According to the National Labor Relations Act, which set up the NLRB, it is illegal for a company to threaten workers that they will lose their jobs, or that the plant will be closed if the union wins. It is also against the law to question workers about their union activities in a way that intends to intimidate them.

Therefore, when the union lost the first two elections, it filed an appeal with the NLRB to overturn the results, charging that Storkline had violated the law.

#### Investigation

When such an unfair labor practice charge is filed, the NLRB goes into action. The Regional Director investigates the charge and makes a ruling. (The Regional Director for northern Mississippi is in Memphis; the Director for the southern part of the state is in New Orleans.)

If he agrees that the company has not acted properly, the

Regional Director can set aside the results of the election and order a new one. Generally, the NLRB in Washington is called on to hear appeals on the case. The NLRB doesn't just hold elections when unfair labor practices have been charged. It conducts all union elections from the very beginning.

#### 1/3 File Petition

Usually, when the workers in a plant want to organize a union, the boss opposes their efforts and will not recognize the union voluntarily. If 1/3 of the workers in a plant file a petition with the NLRB, the employer must permit it to conduct a union election.

The Regional Director holds hearings to determine which workers will be included in the bargaining unit; supervisors

and other people who have the power to hire and fire are not permitted to be part of the unit.

Often there are numerous appeals, as the company seeks to delay the election by challenging the decision on who is entitled to vote. Finally, after the highest authority hands down a ruling, the election is held.

#### Certification

If the results are not challenged within five days, the NLRB will issue a notice of certification. This means that the union is authorized to represent the workers in all dealings with the boss—including seeking higher wages, job security and better working conditions. This is the next step for Carpenters Union Local 3031 at Storkline.

## Poor Farmers Can Get Loans To Fix Up Homes

The federal government may give you up to \$500 to fix up your home if you are poor and live in a rural area.

The Farmers Home Administration (FHA) of the Department of Agriculture has a program of grants and loans to build or repair the homes of farm workers. Last year, the FHA gave out loans totaling \$12.5 million in Mississippi. The average loan was for \$8,500.

#### 90% Got Loans

Almost anyone who asks for a loan can get one. Last year 90% of the people who requested help got enough money to build a new house, fix up an old one or buy the property they were renting.

It costs nothing to apply for a loan, and the money can be paid back over a period of as long as 33 years. Owners who

are unable to repay a loan can get a gift of up to \$500.

#### For Rural Areas

To get a loan or a grant, a farmer must live in a rural area or in a town with less than 2500 people. He must also own the land on which he wants to build a new house or own the house he wants to repair. If a farmer does not own his land, the FHA can loan him the money with which to buy it.

The FHA has free architect's plans for farm houses to help people who want to build new homes.

To find out about a loan or a grant, go to one of the Farmers Home Administration offices located in the county seats of 76 Mississippi counties. About 1500 people got aid last year; you could be one of the lucky ones for 1963.

## Union Leaders Meet To Discuss State Elections

Three hundred delegates from Mississippi union locals met in Laurel recently and decided not to back candidates for Governor and Lt. Governor of Mississippi until after the August Democratic primaries.

They did agree, however, to suggest candidates for offices who will be elected in the August primaries; these candidates have no Republican or Independent opposition.

#### COPE

The delegates were attending the Mississippi Convention of the Committee on Political Education (COPE) which is the political arm of the labor movement supported by voluntary contributions from members. There are COPE groups in every state.

In a statement after the Convention, Mississippi Labor

Council President Claude Ramsey said, "The success of our form of government in large part can be attributed to the two party system which is firmly established in all but a few states of our nation. The record clearly shows that issues and policies are more clearly defined in those states who have active Republican as well as Democratic parties."

#### Two Party System

Ramsey noted that Republicans were running for Governor and Lt. Governor, a move which means that "a two party system is fast becoming a reality in Mississippi . . ."

"Simply stated, this development means that the race for Governor and Lt. Governor will not be determined in the Democratic primary but will instead be determined in the general election on Nov. 5. In view of the fact that the Mississippi AFL-CIO is a non-partisan or-

ganization, this development indicates that the Labor Council should adopt new methods and procedures to cope with this desired change."

#### Recommendations

The COPE Convention passed these four resolutions:

1. It voted to consider only those state and district races which will be decided in the Democratic primary.

2. It voted to send all union members information, about the candidates, secured by the state and central bodies of the AFL-CIO.

3. It directed the Executive Board of the State AFL-CIO to interview the Republican and Independent candidates for Governor and Lt. Governor.

4. It decided that before the November election, the Executive Board may make recommendations about candidates to the membership and may call a special convention to deal with such matters.

The candidates which were endorsed in the Laurel meeting will be made public after the state's union members are informed of the actions taken.



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# Free Press \$5 Quiz

## NAMES IN THE NEWS

This week's \$5 Quiz tests your knowledge of important names which have appeared in the Free Press. All you do is put the number of the correct name in front of each of the descriptions below. Then write your name and address in the space provided and send the quiz in to the Free Press.

All the correct entries will be placed in a hat and the winner will be drawn out. Entries for this week's quiz must be received at the Free Press by Saturday, July 13. The winner, along with the answers to the quiz, will be announced July 20.

This contest is open only to Mississippi subscribers. If you live in Mississippi and are not a subscriber, you can become one and take part in the quiz each week by filling out the form on the back of the quiz and enclosing a dollar with your entry.

IMPORTANT: Watch for the winner of last week's quiz, along with the answers to last week's quiz, in next week's Free Press.

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| a. The man who is charged with the murder of Madgar Evers. | 1. John F. Kennedy      |
| b. A Mississippi Labor Leader                              | 2. Byron De La Beckwith |
| c. A leader in the Jackson movement.                       | 3. Ross Barnett         |
| d. President of the Mississippi NAACP.                     | 4. James Meredith       |
|  | 5. Claude Ramsay        |
|  | 6. Rev. R. L. T. Smith  |
|  | 7. Sam Block            |
|  | 8. Aaron Henry          |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Send To:

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Jackson, Miss.

## Greenville . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Walgreens. Two in the group were convicted Monday afternoon along with two arrested in the park Saturday.

After the trial, voter registration workers Charles Cobb and Charles McLaurin began speaking to the people as they came out of the courtroom.

### Police Arrest Speakers

As a large crowd gathered, police arrested the speakers and carried them bodily to jail. Officers then attempted to disperse group of whites and Negroes standing outside the courthouse.

As police escorted about 150 Negroes to a Negro section, a few members of the group broke away from the crowd and sought lunch-counter service at Walgreens. Two were arrested.

Tuesday, 70 people marched to the city hall demanding to see the mayor. They were met by the chief of police who told them the mayor was not there. The group left peaceably.

## Clarksdale . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

County Branch of the NAACP, local officials gave no positive response to the anti-discrimination demands of Clarksdale Negro leaders.

A week of small daily protests demanding a bi-racial committee brought no results. Appeals to city officials, businessmen, and clergymen also failed.

Seeking to put greater pressure on Clarksdale citizens to end discrimination, local leaders turned to the national organizations.

## Carpenters Win . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

union in hopes of getting better working conditions. "The past situation has been pretty bad," he said.

Mr. Green also said he looks to the union to bring greater job security to Storkline workers. "I have seen the company let go a lot of guys under cir-

## Mississippi Shakes . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

several applicants after "barely looking at their tests." He said college seniors were among those failed.

Rev. Haughton said a complaint has been sent to Attorney General Robert Kennedy. The Attorney General earlier promised Charles Evers that he would send federal men to watch over registration in Jackson if Evers asked for them.

### Boycott List

At a mass meeting last week, Glorioso Super Market on Woodrow Wilson, Jordan Super Market on Lynch, New Deal Super Market on N. Farish, and King The Tailor on Capital Street were added to the list of boycotted stores.

Charges of discourteous treatment and discrimination were directed against all the stores.

circumstances that didn't seem justified. My wish is that the union will bring more security."

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### Greenwood Arrests . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

arrested the day before on charges of parading without a permit were given four months in jail and \$200 fines.

Monday, 14 of the more than 50 people sent to the Leflore County Farm for civil rights activity sat down in the barracks and refused to work.

The day before, over 200 people came to visit the prisoners.

Voter registration workers told the Free Press that the Justice Department will not act to release the jailed people because they are either under voting age or non-residents. The Justice Department told them that they can only intervene if the right to vote has been abridged or denied.

#### NEW LAWS

The Greenwood City Council passed two ordinances June 24 aimed at protecting the city's police force from verbal abuse, and clarifying the proper uses of the local sidewalks.

#### Can't Curse Cops

The first new law makes it a crime to "curse, insult, deride, ridicule or use abusive language toward policemen, auxiliary policemen and firemen engaged in proper performance of official duties."

The other new statute amended the present traffic ordinance to make it unlawful to "sit, kneel, recline or engage in public speaking, group shouting or group singing, or to assemble to organize in groups carrying signs on the sidewalks or streets" without permission of

### Miss. Decisions . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

harm. The boy's mother and grandfather, however, identified the body recovered as that of young Emmet. But the two men were acquitted when both the Leflore county coroner and a local undertaker said the recovered body had been in the water so long that identification was impossible.

A similar case involved the death in April 1962 of Cpl. Roman Duckworth of Taylorsville. Duckworth was shot by a police officer who claimed the soldier attacked him. The officer charged that Duckworth, who had been riding on a Trailways bus, refused to get off when he reached his stop.

#### Patrolman Shoots Soldier

The driver of the bus asked the patrolman to get Duckworth off the bus, and when the officer attempted to do so, Duckworth started a fight. The policeman, who charged that Duckworth was drunk at the time, fired one warning blast and then shot and killed the soldier.

Charges by the NAACP that Duckworth was killed because he insisted on sitting in the front of the bus were denied, and the case never came to court.

#### Next Week: The Cases The State Forgot

the Chief of Police.

The new law also prohibits the placing of "debris of any kind" on the streets or sidewalks.

### Gulfport Committee Forms; 2 Explosions Rock Dunn's House

Despite the opposition shown by two explosions at the home of Dr. Felix Dunn, president of the Gulfport NAACP, civic leaders of Gulfport established a 13-member bi-racial committee last week.

According to Mayor R. B. Meadows, Jr., the group will advise the city government on racial matters. Eight whites and five Negroes are on the committee.

The first explosion occurred the night of June 24 following a meeting at which the Mayor agreed to set up the bi-racial committee. No damage was reported. The second came two days later and scattered debris about the waiting room of Dr. Dunn.

Police Chief Howard Hobbs said his department is "vigorously investigating" the case. He has sent a shell casing, found near Dr. Dunn's home, to the FBI laboratories for examination.

The Mayor said he received anonymous phone calls and verbal insults from a car passing his house after the announcement of plans to set up the biracial committee.

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### Justice Dept. . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

bricks and bottles thrown by another group of Negroes. Soon after, police arrived and arrested 57 of those who were attacked. Twelve who were under 15 years old were later released.

The six arrested in Winona were standing peacefully outside the town's bus station June 9 when county sheriff Earl Partridge arrested them for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. Five of the six had entered the terminal restaurant shortly before, but they left when police chief Thomas Herrod ordered them out.

The Justice Department suit, filed against the City of Winona, its mayor, police chief, and the county sheriff, seeks to prevent these officials from interfering with the right of Negroes to use the terminal facilities. The suit also requests that the charges be dropped.

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