'No More Bus Insults
We're Going To Walk'

Lady Tells Her Side
Of Slapping Incident

A sisterly at Jackson State College was arrested last Tuesday and booked on five counts for allegedly slapping an elderly white man without provocation while she was waiting in line to wash the Beckwith trial. Of at least, that is the way the news reports had it. Miss Nor Lucas Stamps had a different version.

She told a FREE PRESS reporter that she was standing in a very crowded line. A white man behind her kept elbowed. Finally this man pushed her into the 84 year-old man who was standing in front, she related.

"He asked me to stop pushing. I told him I wasn't trying to push him, but the man behind me had caused me to bump into him.

"The old man (in front) said 'Stop lying.' I said 'I'm not lying.' Then the man behind me said, 'You are lying.'"

"The old man slapped me," Miss Stamps said.

"When the police came shortly after, they asked the white people and everyone else on the bus and at the time witnessed the incident.

"When the leading of the Jackson Movement heard of the incident, they reported that they were in touch with the manager of the City Lines Bus and that they were given the runaround as in the past.

"Following the report, Rev. R. L. T. Smith issued a press release, "Are we going to let our women be treated this way? What are we going to do?"

"WE'RE GOING TO WALK!" shouted back the crowd.

"Who wants to walk?" asked Smith.

"Whoever wants to walk to work until all our women are treated with decency and courtesy, STAND UP!"

The entire capacity crowd jumped to its feet.

Beckwith Home Free, Posts $10,000 Bond

Byron de La Beckwith

Yes, he is home free. Greenwood, Mississippi put him on parole to welcome home here. Byron de La Beckwith, who was released on $10,000 bond last week after 18 months in jail and two trials. He was charged with the shooting of Medgar Evers in the back last summer.

In the first trial, the twelve jurors ended in a tie and deadlocked (according to reports).

In the second trial which just ended last week, the jury once again could not bring itself to a verdict. It is believed that they were split 6-6 for acquittal. Judge Leon Hendrix, who presided at both trials, did not say whether there would be a third trial or not.

Following his release, the very shining Sheriff of Hinds County, and one of his deputies (Continued on Page 2)

Woman Reports Nasty Driver
Mass Meeting Votes To Stay Off

A special mass meeting last Friday night brought the largest crowd in six months to Pearl Street Church. The word had spread.

A lady had a story to tell, and the people had heard this kind of story over and over again, and they wanted to do something about it.

One of those who was present at the meeting asked a woman to stand up and tell the community just what had happened to her that very morning.

She stood, walked up to the front of the packed church—and to cries of "They are animals," she told her story.

She said that at six fifteen in the morning, she was out waiting for the number six City Lines Bus to ride to work. When the bus arrived and let her on, she handed the bus driver a one dollar bill.

At this point she said that the bus driver cursed her and said nasty things because she did not have change. She said that she was the only other person on the bus at the time witnessed the incident.

When the leaders of the Jackson Movement heard of the incident, they reported that they were in touch with the manager of the City Lines Bus. They reported in the mass meeting that they were given the runaround as in the past.

"Following the report, Rev. R. L. T. Smith asked the crowd, "Are we going to let our women be treated this way? What are we going to do?"

"WE'RE GOING TO WALK!" shouted back the crowd.

"Who wants to walk?" asked Smith.

"Whoever wants to walk to work until all our women are treated with decency and courtesy, STAND UP!"

The entire capacity crowd jumped to its feet.

Tougaloo Student Gets Delta Award

In a letter to Gov. Paul Johnson, Dr. Aaron H. Henry, Mississippi NAACP State Conference president, called attention to the huge sums spent by the rich for rich state before and during the Civil War to perpetuate slavery.

"Mississippi will find herself in the same predicament as she did after the Civil War," Dr. Henry said. "Having spent all their money and in the state will still emerge to their homelands."
Editorial Page

WE STAND FOR... GOOD GOVERNMENT HONEST LIVING STANDARDS BETTER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES SOCIAL INNOVATION IN MISSISSIPPI

This week, the FREE PRESS is printing excerpts from an editorial work done under the jointing of Dr. Silver and the editor, the James W. Silver, The speech which is referred to is the editorial in the one in which he called Mississippi’s 4th Closed Shop.

Guest Editorial—Lexington Advertiser

What, Then, Mississippi?

His speech was literally the "straw" that broke the camel’s back. Dr. Silver’s enemies, which any outspoken person acquires over a period of years, first howled with rage and then jumped up and down with glee. Now they had him. Since that time he has been subjected to unremitting attacks by his enemies and certain prudent politicians seeking newspaper headlines in what they regard as a popular cause.

If the voices of dissent are silenced, as some are seeking to do in the attempted dismissal of Dr. Silver for starting an unpopular truth, then all our freedom is in jeopardy. And it is just a matter of time until freedom is dead in Mississippi.

Dangerously close to that already.

If you don’t believe it, you must think back and determine the last time you had voiced, in the company of other Mississippians, an opinion which you knew to be unpopular with the majority of your own little community or state.

In Germany, under Hitler and his Gehange, they called this the "police state."

In Mississippi today, in the era of the Citizens’ Councils and other terrorist, extremist organizations, Dr. Silver calls our situation "an enclosed society."

For sounding this alarm, which should penetrate the consciousness of the most unthinking, we should be eternally grateful. We are forever in his debt.

Instead, some want him banished from the state.

But him up against those who do not, will not, cannot go along with the crowd—all those who value truth, personal freedom, material and personal gain, be it professor, minister, teacher, doctor, lawyer, editor, or plain, private citizens.

What, then, Mississippi?

And This?

Now another educator, Dr. William D. McCain of the University of Southern Mississippi at Hattiesburg, whose recent speeches sound very much as though he’s a candidate for governor, is going to be Master of Ceremonies at a Harrison County Citizens’ Council rally on May 2 which promises to attract the prettiest assortment of rabble rousers in the county, among the invited are the Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, an organization which appears on the FBI official list of subversive organizations in the United States.

Former Mayor General Edward A. Walker will make an address.

Now do you suppose the state college board will say anything to Dr. McCain?

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MISSISSIPPI FREE PRESS Saturday, April 25, 1964

Negro Spilled Blood
In ‘Boston Massacre’

Promulgated as the sharp (Editor) editorial in the FREE PRESS two weeks ago, the plea of Lester High School student, Albert J. Rawls Jr., was published in this issue. "FREE PRESS will print a special feature, a special section of a feature, of the early Negro Americans. The feature is provided by the NABP press service.

In the Revolutionary War the American Negro was a participant and a symbol. He was on the battlefields and behind the lines; in his expectations and in the guns he registered during the war, he personified the struggle in which his name the struggle was waged." Thus historian Charles Burtner opens his 1964 book, "The Negro in the American Revolution."

It is estimated that of the 300,000 soldiers who served in the American Army of the Revolutionary War, 3,000 were Negroes. Yet, this was the first military service rendered by colored men in America; they were employed as soldiers by both the northern and southern colonies in the French and Indian War, 1754-68.

The "shot heard round the world" was fired at Lexington (Mass.) on April 19, 1775, and thus commenced the American War of Independence. But five years earlier on the 10th March, the first blood of American patriots was spilled at the Boston Massacre.

Some time before the March 1770, incident, pioneer Negro historian George W. Williams (History of the Negro Race in America from 1619 to 1899) learned that, Col. Attucks wrote a spirited letter to the royal governor: "You hear from us with astonishment. You ought not to hear from us with horror. . . ." Attack had run away from his Farnham’s (Mass.) master in 1780. For the next 20 years he made his living working on ships plying out of Boston harbor.

On the memorable night of March 5, a crowd of 40 to 50 men attacked and murdered a British sentry in front of the Custom House on King Street, taunting and threatening him. When a file of Red Guards under the command of Captain Thomas Preston came to his rescue, Attucks led the "protest" against them with the shout: "The way to get rid of these soldiers is to attack the main guard; strike the black root; this is the nest."

The troops fired into the crowd killing Attucks and four other demonstrators and wounded others.

Following a martyr’s funeral, Attucks was buried in an unmarked grave with three of his fallen comrades. The grave-stone bore the inscription: "Long as freedom’s cause the wise contend. Dear to your country shall your fame ascend. While in the world the lettered stone shall tell Where Caldwell, Attucks, Gray and Marvin fell.

The royal governor immediately arranged for the withdrawal of the soldiers from the city and tensions eased.

"The signification of Attucks’ death," historian John Hope Franklin (From Slavery to Freedom comments), "seems to lie in the dignity of man.”

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Recommend the Sunday Post to a friend.
Say you have heard, Dick Gregory has recently had twins. (His wife did anyway.) The two girls have been given the middle names, Inte and Gration. Together, of course, they say integration.

Gregory said that he wanted their names to remind them "for the rest of their lives the author's identity, whether he was in jail during her pregnancy, while fighting for civil rights..."

You know recently they found a really old fossil of one of the earliest human beings. When the British scientist, who made the find, was asked how he knew the newly found fossil affects Darwin's theory of evolution, he replied, that it is no longer a theory, "It's a fact."

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Lady Tells... (Continued from Page 2)

persons standing in line, what had happened." Miss Stamps said that she tried to explain that the old man had attacked her first, but she was arrested, nonetheless.

"Upon leaving the scene of the incident," Miss Stamps said, "the arresting officer was twisting my arm and when I asked him to stop, another of ficer who said that he had long wanted to get me grabbed my other arm and began twisting.

"Both officers were hitting me," she said "as they went down the steps, and continued to do so all the way to the elevator. While on the elevator, my head was bumped against the walls by the officers, and they continued to hit me after I was brought to the

office where I was booked," Miss Stamps said.

Miss Stamps was charged with disturbing the peace, until two unidentified men, dressed in plain clothes, came in and started naming charges that she should be booked for and she was booked for them, she said. The booking officer took a pen from me with NAACP inscribed on it (which was never returned) and told me 'This is a Dis good organization to get your a-beat in.'

"Upon requesting to make a phone call," Miss Stamps said she was told that "the lines had been disconnected." Miss Stamps said that after she had been jailed about an hour, the Sheriff came and told her that someone had called to see if she were there. He laughed and told her that he had told them that she wasn't. She was released about 3:30 that same day.

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Pittman Takes 2nd Gro-Yo Prize

Freddy Pittman, Jr. was the high point winner in the second Gro-Yo Day held at the Farm Street Branch YMCA on last Saturday. Participating along with him from Christ the King were Darrell K. Evers, second prize winner, Dennis C. Swett, III, Keith Bick, Edward N. Lee, III, and Ronald and Donald Lee; participating from Dewa Brown was Bernard Moore. Third prize winner, James Mitchell, was the only representative from the Mars Hill Elementary School; Smith Robertson had the participant, Ellis J. Johnson, and Martin Elementary School was represented by two boys, Levi Heidelberg and John Sanford. Donald Lee won consolation prize.

Beckwith Home... (Continued from Page 1)

Join Beckwith Ice face down on the door in the back seat of an unmarked car which was waiting at the side of the courthouse. This kindly Sheriff sped his famous runner officer to his hometown of Greenwood. At home, the angry and exasperated expressions of sympathy brought tears to Beckwith eyes.

Following Beckwith's release, Charles Evans, the slain NAACP worker's brother, put out a statement in which he made a plea for one to "resent to violence in any form against Beckwith and his family," because neither he nor his wife "do not want you to be so burned, keep moving in a non-violent way."

In Indiana, James Meredith, a state NAACP leader, told the news media, "The [state's] NAACP is in Beckwith's favor, because there is no one else interested in defending him."

The full story of the event is as follows: The Beckwith trial was not a result of any NAACP member's decision, because only one member was interested in defending him. The trial was set for the summer months.

However, the inductive action of a jury representing a cross-section of the people, shows clearly that all of the people were not misled one way or another by any tactics which may have been promoted by come to do so. This is encouraging and shows progress toward the goal of justice in Mississippi.

To all citizens, Negro and White, who are sympathetic to the cause of real justice in Mississippi, may I make a personal plea, please do not resort to violence in any form against Beckwith or anyone else, because Medgar Merri could only want you to do the same, but instead keep moving in a non-violent way for justice and equality for all Mississippians regardless of race, creed, or color without making her hatred in our hearts.

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