

RIGHTS WORKERS TO APPEAL

SELMA, ALABAMA - Fourteen civil rights workers arrested during an intensive vote drive here last fall will appeal their February 17 convictions on charges of violating city ordinances.

Dallas County Judge Hugh Mallory fined twelve of the workers \$300 each and fined two others \$50.

The Negroes were arrested during Freedom Week in Selma which began October 7, 1963.

The heavy fines were meted out for unlawful assembly, while the others were for "provocation". Eight other cases were continued until March 5, and four cases were dismissed.

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ELEVEN STILL HELD IN CANTON JAIL

CANTON, MISSISSIPPI - Two civil rights workers who were jailed here February 7 on a charge of "conspiracy to intimidate a family" are still in jail under six months sentence and \$500 fine.

Appeal bond for the two - Claude Weaver, 20, a Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) worker, and Ed Hollander, 23, of the Congress of Racial Equality - was set at \$500 each, property or surety.

At the February 10 trial they were accused of telling a Canton woman that if she accepted employment in a store under boycott, they would "harm" her six-year-old child.

Weaver, a former Harvard University student from Atlanta, testified that he and Hollander had not left their residence at the time they were accused of threatening the woman.

Since January 22, more than 20-odd civil rights and voter registration workers have been arrested in Canton on charges ranging from "burning trash without a permit" to "publishing libel".

Atlanta SNCC spokesmen have termed the Canton arrests a "purge, since virtually all SNCC and CORE workers who have gone into that city have been arrested, one by one."

Most of the charges have centered around an economic boycott called by rights workers against merchants who insist on addressing Negro customers as "boy" or "nigger".

According to SNCC Chairman John Lewis, restriction of bond to property or surety "is an attempt to keep workers incarcerated. It is nearly impossible to find a bonding company in the state which will cover civil rights workers."

"The Negro community is usually too poor to have resources for posting large property bonds," Lewis said.

The latest arrests brought to 11 the number of civil rights workers held in the Madison County jail. Among them is Carole Merritt, a 23-year-old SNCC worker from Cincinnati, and a graduate of Vassar College.

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