

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, August 9th, 1965

Canton, Mississippi. A telegram has been sent to State Attorney General Joseph Patterson asking that he "rush a supply of new (registration) forms" to Madison County Circuit Clerk and Registrar Feste Campbell. The telegram, signed by FDP Executive Board member Mrs. Annie Devine, states that Campbell "has told numerous people trying to register that he has no new forms and will not have any until late August. Many persons anxious to register now have asked me to request you to rush supply of new forms special delivery to Canton. Thank you."

"Campbell has told some people he is out of the new forms, others that he has the new forms but will not use them, and still others that he is not going to register anyone new," Mrs. Devine stated. "In some instances, Negro citizens ~~bringing~~ report that they have pointed out to Mr. Campbell that the new law went into effect immediately, and he has said he does not care about that, that he is running the office.

"This is only another instance of Mr. Campbell's blatant disregard for the rights of Americans and citizens of this County ~~and~~ if they happen to be black people. Surely the time has come in Mississippi when law-abiding citizens must consider removal of such a public official."

Mrs. Devine also stated that a copy of the ~~telegram~~ telegram had been sent to Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach in Washington, D.C. "I believe Mr. Katzenbach should be made aware of the urgency of sending Federal Examiners to Madison County without any delay," ~~she~~ she added. "I think, too, that every member of the House of Representatives should take note of this behavior and keep it in mind when the Congressional Challenge comes up for a vote."