

# THE STUDENT VOICE

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The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, 6 Raymond St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30314

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## Over 70,000 Cast Freedom Ballots

### HENRY-KING TICKET TOPS MOCK ELECTION

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI - Over 70,000 disenfranchised Negroes in 200 communities throughout the state cast "Freedom Ballots" in churches, schools, poolrooms and "votemobiles" over a three-day period here.

For many, participation in the mock election was their first adventure into politics. The Freedom Vote candidates, Dr. Aaron Henry of Clarksdale and Rev. Edwin King of Jackson, received almost all of the votes cast, with less than 300 split between Democratic and Republican candidates.

There were 78,388 Freedom Votes cast. Henry received 72,869.

Henry, state NAACP head and president of the Council of Federated Organizations (COFO), indicated the mock vote gave Mississippi's non-voting Negroes "a real choice between candidates." Both Republican and Democratic candidates ran on segregationist platforms. The Freedom Vote candidates - who also received write-in votes during the regular election November 5 - urged the state to provide "justice, equal education, jobs and voting



DR. AARON HENRY



REV. EDWIN KING

rights." The Freedom Ballot platform called for an end to segregation, including all public accommodations; fair employment at a \$1.25 minimum wage; better schools and a guaranteed right to vote.

Robert Moses, director of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee's Mississippi vote drive and director of COFO said the campaign was "a political breakthrough in Mississippi." COFO leaders hope to use the activity surrounding the drive to push Negro vote attempts in the state. Over 100 campaign workers

were arrested on various charges during the three-week drive. At one time, 50 students from Yale University and several from Stanford University were in the state working with the Henry-King slate.

John Lewis, Chairman of SNCC, who worked in Mississippi during the last days of the campaign, said the Freedom Vote "is one of the most significant events of the civil rights movement."

James Forman, SNCC Executive Secretary said, "even though write-ins are not count-

CONTINUED TO PAGE 4

## SELMA DRIVE FOR VOTES CONTINUES

SELMA, ALABAMA - A vote drive begun here in January, 1963 has mushroomed into the testing ground for SNCC's "One man - One vote" campaign.

Over 650 Negroes have appeared at the registrar's office since October 7.

They have braved wind and rain - and the possibility of being jailed - to stand in line outside the registrar's office waiting for a chance to take Alabama's complicated voter test.

In 1961, the U.S. Civil Rights Commission listed only 9% of the county's eligible Negroes as voters. A SNCC study (see SNCC SPECIAL REPORT: SELMA, ALABAMA) outlined the county's history of disfranchisement and listed instances of official interference into voting procedures.

When SNCC Executive Secretary James Forman addressed the first mass meeting called by the newly formed Dallas County Voters League, city and county police and members of the special "posse" surround-

CONTINUED TO PAGE 3

## 6 Freed In Americus Vow To Continue Work

AMERICUS, GEORGIA - Three field workers from the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) - who escaped a possible death sentence when a three-judge Federal panel freed them on Friday, November 1 - still face other charges here.

The three - Donald Harris of New York, Ralph Allen of Melrose, Massachusetts, and John Perdue of Denver, Colorado - were jailed here August 8 and charged with attempting to incite insurrection, unlawful assembly, rioting, obstruction

of a lawful arrest. Harris and Allen are charged further with assault and battery. All were denied bail.

Two others, 14-year-old Sallie Mae Durham and 19-year-old

CONTINUED TO PAGE 2



SELMA Negroes line up to register to vote. (SNCC Photo)

## Arkansas Drive Registers 1800

PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS - A summer vote drive run by SNCC and the Pine Bluff Movement here has upped Negro vote totals by 1300.

A Pine Bluff dentist, Dr. W. L. Molette, narrowly missed becoming the city's first Negro Alderman. He polled 2,881 votes to his opponent's 4,453.

Before the vote drive began, there were 5,541 registered Negro voters in Jefferson County and 1,110 in Lincoln County. SNCC worker Bill Hansen, who heads the drive here, said 1876 Negroes were registered in Jefferson County from June to October and 428 were added to polling lists in Lincoln County during August and September.

"The civil rights stimulus in the county" Hansen said, "has upped registration here."

In Lincoln County Sheriff Leo Connor told a SNCC worker that 200 more Negroes than usual had registered, in addition to the more than 400 brought in by SNCC efforts.



Don Harris



John Perdue



Ralph Allen

## Americus

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Thomas McDaniel were charged with rioting, unlawful assembly, assault and obstruction of a lawful arrest. McDaniel was held on \$12,000 bail and Miss Durham, a minor, was held without bail.

A sixth youth, Zev, Aelony, a CORE field secretary, was also charged with insurrection. Aelony was jailed August 17.

All were freed when the three-judge panel outlawed Ge-

orgia's insurrection and unlawful assembly statutes. The court also prohibited further prosecution of the youths on the outlawed charges and ordered them set free on bail.

The ruling Friday marked the first time a Federal court has halted prosecution on a civil rights case at the request of private parties.

Testimony at the two-day hearing centered around beatings received by some of the jailed youths and other demonstrators, and voter registration activities here. A Justice Department lawyer testified that Negro vote tries - which

had increased after SNCC began a drive here in January - decreased after the workers were arrested.

The three SNCC workers will continue their work in Americus. Miss Durham, who would have been a ninth grade student, will return to school. She testified at the hearing that she and Donald Harris were knocked down by policemen and Harris was beaten by a policeman when he tried to get some water in the jail.

Harris testified that officers beat him several times the night he was arrested.

# 6 Face Five Years On Federal Perjury Charges

ATLANTA, GEORGIA - The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee has sent petitions bearing 10,000 names protesting the indictment of nine Albany, Georgia civil rights workers to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy.

6 of the nine face trials beginning November 12. They are accused of perjuring themselves before the Grand Jury. They are: Slater King, Albany Movement president; Mrs. E. L. Jackson, Movement secretary; Thomas Chatmon, the Reverend Samuel Wells, Robert Thomas and SNCC worker Joni Rabinowitz. Miss Rabinowitz is accused of two counts of perjury.

The petitions, circulated to labor, religious, civil rights and

civil liberties and student organizations, called for dismissal of the indictments, and "action against Southern policemen whose brutalities against man far exceed any alleged acts committed by the Albany nine."

The indictments grew from the Federal trial of Baker County (Georgia) Sheriff L. Warren Johnson, who was accused of shooting and beating Charles Ware, a Negro. On April 12, 1963, a Federal Grand Jury decided in favor of the sheriff. A white grocer, Carl Smith, was one of the jurors.

A week after the decision some Negro youngsters picketed Smith's store, requesting he hire additional Negro em-

THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON • AUGUST 28TH 1961

**WE SHALL OVERCOME!**

WE SHALL OVERCOME!

WE SHALL OVERCOME!

WE SHALL OVERCOME!

WE SHALL OVERCOME!

WE SHALL OVERCOME!

MARCH ON WASHINGTON records are available from SNCC. Proceeds from the sale go to the "March" organizations.

ployees. The next week, Smith closed his store, claiming the hour-long picket line, halted after Albany policemen jailed the demonstrators, had ruined his business. He protested to the Federal Government, and on August 9, nine Albany anti-segregation workers were indicted for perjury and conspiracy to injure a juror.

All are free on bonds ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000. If convicted, the 6 who face trial to-

## 400 MARCH IN ATLANTA

ATLANTA, GEORGIA - More than 400 Atlanta University Center Students staged a protest march and picket line around an Atlanta hotel where Alabama Governor George C. Wallace appeared October 7.

The students, members of SNCC and the Committee On Appeal For Human Rights, protested Alabama's refusal to permit Negroes to register to vote.

day could receive five year sentences and a \$5,000 fine.

The Albany Movement was founded in 1961 as a coalition of civil rights groups, shortly after the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) began a direct action and voter registration campaign there.

## 2,880 Register In Gadsden

GADSDEN, ALABAMA - More than 2,880 Negroes have been added to registration lists since a vote drive began here in June, 1963.

SNCC worker Eric Rainey said that three Negroes had been given higher paying jobs in a white-owned grocery store following a selective buying campaign.



DANVILLE, VIRGINIA is the subject of a SNCC booklet. Copies are available from the Atlanta SNCC office. The booklet gives a history of police brutality aimed at halting the movement there and is illustrated with photographs.

## SCEF Raid Protested

ATLANTA, GEORGIA - The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee protested the October 4 raid by county and state police on the New Orleans offices of the Southern Conference Educational Fund as "despotic." The SNCC telegram to the Justice Department condemned the raid as "a demonstration of lawlessness and defiance of authority."

## Selma Drive

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ed the church. Police harassment - even beatings from law officers - have continued and intensified since then.

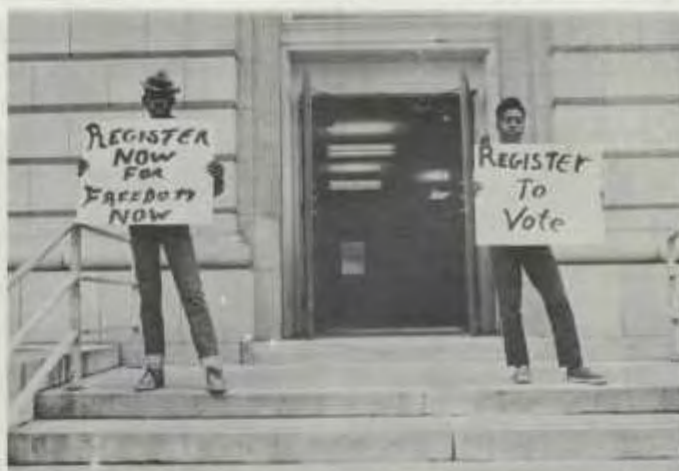
The recent drive began in September, when 68 youngsters were jailed during sit-ins and a protest march. Among those jailed was Worth Long, SNCC worker, who was beaten by a policeman in jail that night. A student organized boycott of classes at the city's all-Negro high school and daily mass meeting with John Lewis and James Forman as speakers further aroused the community. SNCC Chairman Lewis was arrested on September 25, when he carried a sign urging Selma Negroes to register.

During part of October and November, Selma's registration books are open daily, instead of the usual two days a month. It was during this period that large numbers of Negroes began gathering at the courthouse, some arriving as early as 6:30 A.M. County police retaliated by giving out numbers to the first sixty people in line, and the registrar cooperated in the slow-down by processing no more than 25 people a day.

Requests to the Federal Government for aid have met with little success. The Justice Department has two suits on voting in the county, but has made no moves to halt prosecution of voter workers arrested for "unlawful assembly" or to speed up registration procedures.

Not has the Federal Government responded to pleas from SNCC workers and Selma citizens to place Selma off limits to Craig Air Force Base personnel. The base, located just outside the city, could exert considerable influence on Selma's racial policies.

SNCC head Lewis and SNCC workers Worth Long, Wilson Brown and Benny Tucker were sentenced two weeks ago to 100 days in jail. They are appealing their conviction.



SELMA, ALABAMA policemen arrest two voter registration workers on the steps of the Federal Building there. Several movement workers have been jailed by policemen here while encouraging Negroes to register to vote. (SNCC Photo.)

Now SNCC workers and others who have been active in the drive here have been summoned to appear before a November 13 Grand Jury. The jury meets one day before other SNCC

workers face trial here.

But Selma Negroes, and the SNCC workers there, are determined to continue their fight to realize one vote for every man.



Dr. Aaron Henry, during a stop on his statewide tour, shakes hands with voters in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. His companion is SNCC Field Secretary Gerald Bray. (SNCC Photo)

## Mississippi Election

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ed, they indicate that Negroes here had no choice between Democratic and Republican candidates, and if permitted, Negroes here would register to vote in large numbers."

In 1890, Mississippi had 190,000 Negro registered voters. Two years later, it had 8,600. In 1954, there were 22,000 voters - less than 5% of the registered electorate.

Only 6.1 % of the state population, in 6 counties here, no Negroes are registered, the Civil Rights Commission reported in 1963.

## ARRESTS PROTESTED

ALBANY, GEORGIA - The jailing of three SNCC voter registration workers here October 7 was protested to President Kennedy. The three - Willie Ricks, Shirley Gaines and Lavetta Christian - were charged with "disorderly conduct" after they accompanied Negroes to the Dougherty County Courthouse.

## Charges Dropped Against Worker

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA - Charges against a SNCC worker for "trespassing at the University of South Carolina" were dropped.

Sam Shirah, 20 was arrested October 2 going into a movie theatre with four Negroes. Charges were dropped Oct. 4 when the City Recorder's Court ruled the prosecution had no case.

## Fair Boycotted, Policeman Hired

DANVILLE, VIRGINIA - Danville Negroes were urged to boycott the annual Danville Fair to protest the city's rigid segregation policies.

Avon Rollins, SNCC worker here, said the city has hired its first Negro policeman.

## SNCC Asks For Pressure On

## Northern Concerns

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA - The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee sent out a special mailing, listing names and addresses of directors of ten corporations, all major Birmingham employers. The mailing called for protests of the September 15 bombing which killed four girls and demonstrations urging apprehension of those responsible.

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