

# THE STUDENT VOICE

Vol. 4 No. 10

The Student Voice, Inc. 6 Raymond Street, N.W., Atlanta 14, Ga.

December 30, 1963

## SNCC Raps Service Bias

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI - The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) has asked Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara to "act immediately to halt discrimination in the processing of inductees in Jackson, Mississippi."

The SNCC protest, from the group's chairman, John Lewis, said SNCC worker McArthur Cotton was refused service at the Air Base Grill here while he was taking a physical examination.

Cotton also said he and other Negroes were made to ride in the rear of an Army bus to Jackson from Kosciusco, his home town.

Cotton said the Jackson induction center was "totally segregated."

The SNCC worker said he protested the segregation of government facilities to officers there, and was told "the induction center is a city establishment and not controlled by the government."

Cotton said he entered the white dining room for one meal but was refused service. He said he did not eat another meal during his two day stay here.

The SNCC worker, who has been jailed three times for his participation in the civil rights drive, heads a vote drive in McComb, Mississippi.

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## WORKERS SPEND XMAS IN JAIL

ATLANTA, GEORGIA - The Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, the wife of comedian Dick Gregory and 22 SNCC workers spent their

Christmas in an Atlanta jail. SNCC Chairman John Lewis Mrs. Lillian Gregory and the other 22 workers were jailed at a Toddle House Restaurant here.



SNCC WORKER ROBERTA YANCEY is dragged to a police car. Miss Yancey, Prathia Hall and Mrs. Dick Gregory, all arrested at the Toddle House on Christmas Eve, are all stockholders in the Toddle House.

Mrs. Gregory and the two young women arrested with her are stockholders in Dobbs House, the Tennessee corporation that owns Toddle House. All were, in effect, arrested on their own property. They are being held under \$100 bail. The three were placed in solitary confinement on Saturday night, December 28, when they refused to obey jail rules.

Protests at the segregated eating place began on Saturday evening, December 21, after SNCC workers visited and sang Freedom Songs, with the Honorable Oginda Odinga, Minister of Home Affairs of Kenya.

Two members of the group that met and sang with members of the Kenya delegation tried to get coffee at the Toddle House. When they were refused, and entire group sat-in and 17 were arrested.

The next morning, Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve, Mrs. Gregory and SNCC workers Prathia Hall and Roberta Yancey were arrested. Misses Hall and Yancey, who refused to cooperate with police as did most protesters arrested at the eating place,

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## SELMA OFFICE RAIDED

### Nine Arrested

SELMA, ALABAMA - The sheriff of Dallas County, the County Solicitor and four policemen raided the office of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) here today and arrested nine people.

The same policemen also broke into "Freedom House" - a three-room apartment used to house SNCC workers here, and "com-

pletely wrecked" it, according to one SNCC worker.

Willie C. Robertson, 24, who was arrested in the SNCC office this afternoon, said Sheriff Jim Clark tore a telephone from the wall and pushed SNCC worker James Austin, 21, against a window.

Robertson said Sheriff Clark told Austin, "We've been after you for a long time."

The officers also confiscated materials and affidavits from

the office files, including a large number of leaflets promoting a selective buying campaign in Selma.

Earlier this week, a federal judge had refused to allow Dallas County officials to subpoena the record of the organization.

Arrested were Frank Spivey, 18; Louise Johnson, 22; Joseph Pickett, 16; David Murray, 25; Alvery Williams, 21; and Austin and Robertson. Also jailed were J.D. Pritchett Sr., and J.D. Prit-

chett Jr., printers who prepared the boycott leaflets.

Miss Johnson and Murray were arrested in downtown Selma as they distributed the leaflets. Spivey, Pickett, Austin, and Robertson were arrested in the SNCC office. Williams was jailed in the "Freedom House" when he walked in on Sheriff Clark and the policemen there. They had broken into the house, Williams

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# Leaders Sentenced On Perjury Charge



**Joni Rabinowitz**

MACON, GA. --- Five leaders of the Albany Movement—including a SNCC worker—were sentenced in U.S. District Court here on Dec. 23 as a result of picketing of a supermarket in Albany last spring. The formal charge against them was perjury.

Those sentenced were Slater King, acting president of the Albany Movement, who was given a year and a day in prison; the Rev. Samuel B. Wells, a year and a day; Miss Joni Rabinowitz, SNCC worker and white Antioch College student, three months to four years, and Thomas Chatmon and Robert Thomas suspended sentences and five years' probation.

Attorneys immediately filled notice of appeal to the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals at New Orleans. Judge W.A. Bootle set appeal bonds at \$5,000 for King; \$3,000 for Miss Rabinowitz, and \$2,500 apiece for the others.

None had ever been arrested previously except for taking part in integration activities. Albany was the scene of a great upsurge against segregation in 1962, during which it became a symbol of the integration movement throughout the world.

After he was sentenced, Slater King declared; "I knew from the beginning that it would be an impossibility for all of us who had been very active leaders in the freedom struggle to receive a fair and impartial trial before an all-white Southern jury.

"It is interesting that white segregationists can bomb, murder, and plunder at will and with the knowledge that they will not be punished by the courts, but black men must face death daily, and even persecution by the Federal

Government, in attempting to obtain their constitutionally guaranteed rights."

The sentencing followed separate trials for the five during November, at which the defendants flatly denied the charges against them. A sixth person accused, Mrs. Eliza Jackson, is to be tried Jan. 27. She is the recording secretary of the Albany Movement.

Dr. W.G. Anderson, former head of the Albany Movement, is to be retried April 6. A jury was unable to agree at his first trial in the fall. He is charged with conspiring to injure a federal juror. The others are charged with lying to a federal grand jury about various matters during its investigation of the picketing of the supermarket.

The grand jury was investigating a charge by Carl Smith, a grocer, that his place had been picketed in retaliation for a verdict he gave as a juror in Federal Court.

Smith and others on the jury had found in favor of Sheriff L. Warren Johnson of Baker County, accused of beating and shooting a Negro, Charlie Ware, while Ware was a prisoner.

Smith closed down the supermarket after it had been picketed for about an hour. The pickets said they were protesting Smith's failure to upgrade Negroes employed in the store.

Smith was represented by a law firm which included Mayor Asa Kelly of Albany. This firm requested the investigation by the Federal Government. The Justice Department conducted the most vigorous prosecution yet seen in the civil rights movement.

The guilty verdicts will be appealed on the ground that Negroes are discriminated against in the selection of jurors in the U.S. courts in the Middle District of Georgia. Of 93 persons called as possible jurors for the Albany leaders' trial, only three were Negroes. These three were quickly stricken by U.S. Attorneys.

Slater King ran for mayor of Albany in 1963 and Chatmon was a candidate for city commissioner in 1962. Mr. Wells has been very active in voter registration. Thomas, an Albany Movement. Thomas, an Albany barber, has been a strong supporter of the Albany Movement.



DALLAS COUNTY SHERIFF Jim Clark orders SNCC Executive Secretary James Forman away from a line of Negroes trying to register to vote during an extensive vote campaign this summer.

Two SNCC field secretaries were beaten by Clark's policemen shortly after this picture was taken. Forman and the two workers who were beaten were trying to bring food to the Negroes, some of whom had to stand in line all day without eating.

## Voter Suit Halted

SELMA, ALABAMA --- A Federal Judge has "temporarily" suspended a hearing on a Justice Department suit charging the Wilcox County, Alabama board of registrars with discriminating against Negro voters.

The Wilcox County hearing followed a recessed hearing on a Justice Department plea to halt a grand jury in Selma from investigating government action in this central Alabama town.

Judge Daniel H. Thomas said hearings on the grand jury investigation would continue after arguments were heard in the voting cast.

Before taking up the Wilcox County suit, Thomas ruled the Dallas County Improvement Association and the Dallas County Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee would not have to produce member ship rolls, literature, financial statements, payrolls and pamphlets, requested by the defense.

The Justice Department called Lonnie Brown, a Negro farmer, who testified he was refused a chance to register in Wilcox County on two occasions.

Brown, who worked with SNCC Field Secretary Bernard Lafayette in getting the first group of Negroes to make a registration attempt in Wilcox County in 30 years, testified his home was fired upon shortly after he first tried to register.

## Office Raided

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 reported.

All were charged with "illegal circulation of literature promoting a boycott." All were released on \$500.00 bail.

SNCC has conducted an extensive voting drive in Dallas and Wilcox Counties since January 1963. Negroes are 57.7% of Dallas County's population. Only .9% of the voting age Negroes are registered voters, according to the United States Civil Rights Commission. The U.S. Department of Justice has filed suits against Sheriff Clark, Solicitor McLeod and the White Citizens Council here charging them with intimidation of and discrimination against potential Negro voters.

Two white men testified they had been given help by the registrar on their voting applications.

There are no Negroes registered in Wilcox County. In 1960 Negroes were 77% of the total population of the county.

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Songs of the Southern Freedom Movement

**WE SHALL OVERCOME!**Compiled by Guy and Candie Carawan for  
The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee  
OAK PUBLICATIONS 362

**WE SHALL OVERCOME** is a new book of "songs of the Southern Freedom Movement." It is available from SNCC, 6 Raymond Street, Atlanta, for \$1.95.

**Mrs. Gregory Arrested**

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were dragged and carried to a paddy wagon. Mrs. Gregory, who is expecting a child in April, 1964, walked.

**Mrs. Dick Gregory**

Before Mrs. Gregory and the two young women were jailed Christmas evening, members of SNCC staged a stand-in demonstration at Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen's office and home. Others staged a demonstration at the City Airport, carrying signs which said: "Welcome To Atlanta, a segregated City."

**Signs carried to the Mayor's office and home read: "Black is Not a Vice or Segregation a Virtue; Atlanta's Image is a Fraud."**

Working with SNCC to protest segregation is the Committee On Appeal For Human Rights (COAHR), the Atlanta University Center student group. COAHR, headed by Morehouse College student Larry Fox, is responsible for integration of Atlanta's movie theatres, dime store restaurants and for securing more jobs for Negroes here.

Mrs. Gregory's husband, Dick Gregory flew into Atlanta on Thursday, December 27, to witness her arraignment.

He said he would return to Atlanta to engage in demonstrations here.

Before Lewis was jailed Sunday morning, he asked Undersecretary of State for African Affairs G. Mennen Williams by telegram to "remove Atlanta from the itinerary of future African visitors to the United States. Atlanta is the most segregated city in the South for its size."

On Saturday night, Lewis had telegraphed Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr. protesting rough treatment given the prisoners. Lewis' telegram said SNCC worker Worth Long was punched five times by a policeman.

After Lewis was jailed Sunday morning, SNCC Executive Secretary James telegraphed President Lyndon Johnson, saying arrests here "make it imperative to pass the federal public accommodations law."

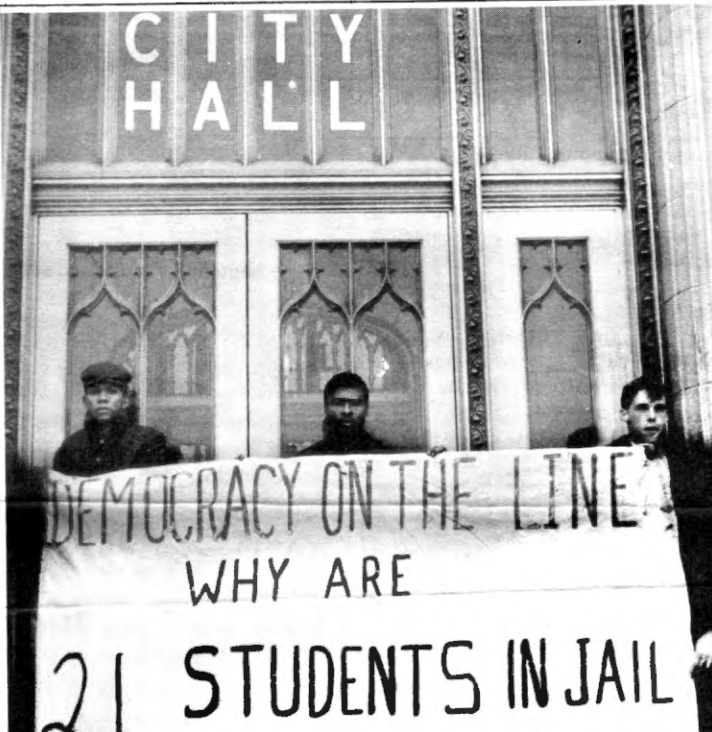
Minister Odinga said racial matters in the United States were "very pitiful." The Kenya official said the United States "practices segregation - which is what we are fighting in Africa."

Forman also expressed "profound apologies" to Odinga "for any embarrassment you might have encountered here in Atlanta as a result of the arrests."

Mr. Odinga is vice president of KANU, The Kenya African National Union, the party of Prime Minister Jomo Kenyatta's government.

On Sunday morning, December 29, eight carloads of SNCC members went to Allen's home again.

They sang songs and issued a statement protesting jail conditions for the three women behind bars and calling for a public accommodations law and for more jobs for Negroes in city government positions here.

**Demonstrators protest at Atlanta City Hall.****WHAT YOU CAN DO**

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee needs your help. We are being hit on all fronts at once.

We urgently request your help TODAY.

**ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

1. Sympathy demonstrations at Toddle House and Dobbs House. There are 255 Toddle Houses in 30 states and Washington D.C. Toddle House is owned by Dobbs, which has 89 restaurants in 28 cities. Demonstrations are already under way in Hartford, Philadelphia and New York.

2. Letters to Mayor Ivan Allen, City Hall, Atlanta, Georgia, protesting the jailing and the rough treatment afforded those arrested.

3. Letters to G. Mennen Williams, Undersecretary of State for African Affairs, State Department, Washington D.C. and to President Johnson protesting the arrests and asking that Atlanta be removed from the itinerary of future visiting Africans. The letters should also emphasize the need for a public accommodations bill.

4. ATLANTA IS ON THE MOVE. WE CAN USE ALL PEOPLE WHO

ARE WILLING TO DEMONSTRATE AND GO TO JAIL, WITHOUT BAIL.

**SELMA, ALABAMA**

1. Students should begin considering spending their spring vacations in Selma, helping the local people show the Dallas County police that we will not be turned back no matter what. Help is needed in voter registration, taking affidavits of voting violations, and generally mobilizing the community.

2. Those who join us must be prepared to spend time in jail.

3. Letters protesting the seizure of our records should be sent to Attorney General Robert Kennedy, Justice Department.

4. Food and clothing is needed desperately in Selma.

5. Money to buy industrial sewing machines for the setting up of a piece-goods factory for the unemployed women is needed. One machine costs \$230,000.

**MACON, GEORGIA**

Letters protesting the four year sentence of Joni Rabinowitz should go to Attorney General Robert Kennedy.

## Students Step Up Boycott

PRAIRIE VIEW, Tex., - In their latest activities against segregation in Hempstead, Tex., 60 students of Prairie View A&M College picketed two restaurants in the town over the last two weekends.

The all-Negro college was integrated this fall by its board of directors, but so far no white students have enrolled.

The demonstration was part of a continuing economic boycott of Hempstead, population 1,500, by students of Prairie View A&M.

The boycott began last summer in protest of the town's segregation policies concerning entertainment and business facilities.

Students and faculty began to shop in near-by centers or in Houston, about 30 miles away, withdrawing their economic support from Hempstead.

The administration of the college has not taken a stand on the segregation policy of Hempstead, and in an effort to elicit a stand, 3,000 students met in the gymnasium Oct. 31 to applaud 46 student leaders who resigned their campus offices in protest.

The mass resignation was touched off by the purchase at a Hempstead store of a color television set for the student union, by T.R. Solomon, dean of student life.

Solomon said of the television set purchase, "I had no idea it would cause all this trouble."

The idea for the boycott of Hempstead originated last spring in a business class when a stu-



McArthur Cotton

## Service Bias

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The text of the Lewis telegram to McNamara follows:

"We call upon you to act immediately to halt discrimination in the processing of inductees in Jackson, Mississippi. McArthur Cotton, one of our workers, reports he was refused service at a restaurant where white inductees were fed and that the Jackson center is 'totally segregated.' Will the Army act to halt jimcrow aimed at those who are fighting to bring democracy to this country? s/John Lewis"

dent asked how much buying power the college's faculty had over Hempstead merchants. It was estimated at 60%.

Later faculty members spearheaded a drive in June to talk with town merchants about desegregating. Discriminatory signs in Waller County Court House and other places were removed and 10 merchants hired 13 Negroes.

## IN CAMBRIDGE....

## New Protests Warned

CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND - Mass demonstrations will begin here after December 22 "unless there is a substantial change in the situation."

Mrs. Gloria Richardson, chairman of the Cambridge Nonviolent Action Committee (CNAC) called for renewed protests in the wake of complete inaction by the city administration and businessmen.

"The Biracial Committee has made no progress and will not meet again until January 21," Mrs. Richardson said. "The federal Housing Project has been held up until summer, and no one knows why," she said.

The housing project and biracial committee were two of the provisions of a "desegregation" agreement with white officials. The agreement was signed July 23 in the office of Attorney General Kennedy in Washington.

Cambridge was the scene of protracted demonstrations this summer. On June 14, after a near riot, Governor J. Millard Tawes called in the Maryland National Guard. The Guard still remains here.

On October 1, Cambridge voters rejected a city charter amendment, part of the "desegregation" pact, which would have banned discrimination in public accommodations.

Only 40% of the registered Negro voters here cast ballots in the election. This small number, compared to a 76% white turnout, was a vote of confidence for Mrs. Richardson, who had urged Negroes to boycott the polls.

The Cambridge Nonviolent Ac-



Mrs. Gloria Richardson

tion Committee, (CNAC) is an affiliate of the Atlanta-based Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). Mrs. Richardson is a member of the SNCC Executive Committee.

The December 22 date marks the end of a one month moratorium called by CNAC in commemoration of the death of President Kennedy.

## Justice Dept. Abandons Suit

GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI - The United States Department of Justice has asked a federal appeals court to dismiss its appeal of a suit against LeFlore County officials.

The Department had been appealing U.S. District Judge Claude Clayton's denial of a temporary injunction against prosecution of 45 Negroes arrested in Itta Bena last June.

The 45, accused of throwing rocks and "causing disturbances" have been convicted in a Justice of the Peace Court. All are free on appeal, and their cases may come up in the January term of county court here.

All were arrested June 18. The Justice Department maintained they were forced out of a voter registration meeting in a church by tear gas and were walking toward the sheriff's house to seek protection when they were set upon by another group of Negroes hired for that purpose.

At their trial the males were sentenced to six months in prison and fined \$500 each. Women received four months and \$200 fines.

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